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CHARGES OF TREATY VIOLATIONS TERMED 'FABRICATIONS'

LD131613 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1518 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] New York, 13 Jan (TASS) -- U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger has made another unseemly attempt to cast a slur on the Soviet Union's policy as regards observance of the international treaty obligations it has assumed. Speaking on an ABC television program, he accused the USSR, for the umpteenth time, of allegedly "violating" the SALT II treaty. In particular, the secretary alleged that the Soviet Union had begun developing [razrabotka] "a new type of intercontinental ballistic missile", even though he is well aware that the missile involved is merely an updated version of the existing RS-12 [as received], and that such modernization, within specific limits, is not banned by the SALT II treaty. Weinberger also distorted the very content of the treaty, declaring that it allegedly does not provide for any reduction in strategic offensive weapons, that it is allegedly advantageous only for the Soviet Union, and that the United States -- so he said -- made a serious mistake in concluding the treaty. At the same time, the Pentagon boss did not utter a word about the fact that in the event of ratification of the treaty by the United States, the Soviet Union would cut the number of its strategic carriers alone by 10 percent.

The chief of the U.S. military department needed the other part of his fabrications to distract public attention away from the efforts being made by the Washington administration to sabotage the provisions of the SALT II treaty and justify the creation and deployment of two new intercontinental ballistic missiles -- MX and Midgetman -- something which is banned by the treaty.

The chief of the U.S. military department also reported that, at present, the administration is discussing measures which should be taken in response to these fabricated "violations" by the Soviet Union.

Weinberger himself presented the President with a secret report containing his ideas and recommendations on the SALT II treaty. As ABC points out, in this document the secretary urgently calls for the "Poseidon" nuclear submarines not to be dismantled after the "Trident" submarine missile carriers have been launched although that would mean a violation of the SALT II treaty. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES, in this report the Pentagon chief also recommended that the President replace "Minuteman-2" missiles with one warhead by "Minuteman-3" MIRVs. In that case, stresses the paper, the number of MIRVs belonging to the United States would exceed the limits established by the SALT II Treaty.

BOGACHEV ACCUSES U.S. OF VIOLATING 'COMMITMENTS'

LD101114 Moscow TASS in English 1009 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes: Unlike the hare in the children's fairytale "Alice in Wonderland", which would grow inordinately excited and talk driveling nonsense with the coming of March, U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger falls into a comparable state somewhat earlier, and that is just as U.S. Congress is about to debate a military budget.

Year in and year out, the Pentagon chief at such time would be digging deep into a hat to produce the most fantastic concoctions about a "Soviet military threat", all designed to give the law-makers a scare and secure another increase in spending on war preparations.

In a report for the U.S. Carnegie Foundation, which Pentagon officials said was the administration's first salvo in a blitz to push through its budget for the next fiscal year, Weinberger demanded that the legislators think better of any cuts in the requested military appropriations of 281.2 billion dollars. He claimed that any trimming of the Pentagon budget would put a question mark over the U.S. ability to successfully negotiate with the Soviet Union.

The defense secretary, who several days ago urged the White House to renounce compliance with the SALT-2 treaty, then suddenly started displaying unusual concern for the observance of international agreements, by branding the USSR with fabricated charges of "treaty violations".

This time, however, he could find no better example of a "violation" than the long-disproved invention about the Soviet Union deploying a second new intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

As is known, the Soviet side has long provided the United States with incontrovertible evidence that what the Pentagon calls the SS-25 is really a version of the earlier ICBM RS-12 [as received] which has been modernized within the limits set by SALT-2.

The Pentagon chief came forward with his latest statements on SALT-2 and allegations about the Soviet Union's "failure to comply with" agreements not only to raise more funds for military purposes. He also was obviously intent on justifying the U.S.'s glaring violations of its treaty-based commitments and vindicating Washington's policy of crawling out of agreements that interfere with its plans to achieve military superiority.

ADELMAN FORECASTS FOR GENEVA TALKS SEEN AS 'PLOYS'

LD131420 Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 13 Jan 86

["Adelman's Propaganda Trickery" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 13 TASS -- TASS military analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes: Speaking in an interview with the Japanese newspaper YOMIURI, Kenneth Adelman, director of the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency (ACDA), said that "considerable progress can be expected" at Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms, which begin on January 16.

He linked his hopes for their success primarily to the "new concrete" proposals the American delegation is taking to Geneva.

The ACDA director recalled "The Soviet side's commitments to achieve progress at talks on limiting nuclear arms" but for some reason he preferred not to mention that twice last year the Soviet Union and the United States jointly proclaimed the broad common goal of preventing an arms race in outer space and terminating it on earth.

Distorting the substance of the statement of the participants in the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting last November, Adelman claimed that in Geneva the leaders of the USSR and the United States had decided to speed up the talks only on strategic arms and medium-range nuclear weapons, while leaving out the problem of keeping arms out of space.

The U.S. Administration official said in the same interview that the American side at the talks is not going to depart by a single step from its course of preparations for "star wars". That declaration by Adelman put in doubt his own upbeat forecasts about possible "considerable progress" in Geneva.

The Soviet side has stressed on more than one occasion that it would be pointless to reduce strategic nuclear arms on the comparatively limited area of the earth if the door remains open to nuclear weapons systems in boundless outer space. The security sphere, whose pivot is the problems of preventing the militarization of outer space and of reducing nuclear arms in their interrelationship, will continue to be decisive to Soviet-U.S. relations. The fact that talks continue should not be used as a justification and a cover for the arms race. Removing the nuclear threat by preventing the arms race from spilling over into outer space and bringing it to a halt on earth remains the cardinal task.

Adelman's forecasts about the possibility of progress at the Geneva talks without solving the key problem of the non-militarization of outer space are propaganda ploys intended to mislead world public opinion.

DECISIONS REQUIRED FOR PROGRESS AT CDE SESSION

PM111425 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[Own correspondent M. Kostikov report: "Stockholm: Decision Time"]

[Text] January -- The next session of the Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe will begin work in the Swedish captial at the end of January. As is known, representatives of 33 European states plus the United States and Canada -- that is, all the countries which signed the Final Act of the all-European conference in Helsinki -- are taking part in the Stockholm forum.

The present state of affairs at the conference gives grounds for speaking of some progress -- albeit slow -- toward the set goal: the elaboration of mutually acceptable accords on measures designed to promote the strengthening of confidence and security in Europe and the cause of disarmament.

The Soviet-French and Soviet-U.S. summit meetings in Paris and Geneva had an important positive influence on the course of the Stockholm dialogue. I have heard this repeatedly during conversations here with members of various delegations taking part in the conference. This is the view, in particular, of Ambassador R. Barry, the new head of the U.S. delegation, [illegible] Tsitron), leader of the FRG delegation, and representatives of groups of neutral and nonaligned countries.

As is known, in Geneva the sides agreed to work together with the other states taking part in the Stockholm conference to promote its speedy completion with the adoption of a document which "...would include both mutually acceptable confidence- and security-building measures and an attempt to give concrete form and effectiveness to the principle of the nonuse of force." The accord on preventing any war -- nuclear or conventional -- is also directly relevant to the Stockholm forum. This position agreed on by both the USSR and the United States gave an important impetus to work in Stockholm on the whole range of problems facing the forum: ensuring confidence and security in Europe and returning the continent to the path of detente, a path laid by the all-European conference in Helsinki. These are the goals served by the socialist countries' proposal which provides for concrete commitments on the nonuse of force as well as confidence-building measures in the military sphere. In the assessment of many observers, this proposal has become fundamental in defining the general direction of the conference's work.

Among the vast majority of participants in the Stockholm conference, the conviction has become markedly firmer that European security, like international security in general, cannot be ensured by military means or by military force.

Under present conditions confidence measures in the military sphere will only be effective when they are combined with political steps to strengthen confidence and security. Despite not uncommon open opposition from the United States and a number of its NATO allies, this premise met with broad understanding among the conference participants.

I have repeatedly heard participants in the conference say that real preconditions exist in Stockholm not simply to reaffirm, but to give concrete form to the principle of the nonuse of force and to make it an essential norm in states' behavior. First and foremost, it is a question of the socialist countries' well-known proposal on the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and on maintaining relations of peace, of which the pivotal tenet would be an accord on renouncing the use of force in its most dangerous form: the use of all types of arms, whether nuclear or conventional, and consequently, of military force in general. This diplomatic initiative from the socialist community countries met with a wide response in Stockholm. According to Ambassador (V. Leybl), head of the Austrian delegation, "the nonuse of force is indisputably the theme of the conference today." In the course of its discussion the representatives of Cyprus, Sweden, Finland, Italy, Denmark, and other countries have put forward a number of amendments concerning ways and forms of increasing the effectiveness of this very important international commitment. In particular, the proposal was made that the ban should extend to the use of force in any shape, direct or indirect, or any form, be it the use of force or the threat of force, military, political, or economic.

Note was also taken here of a statement by FRG Foreign Minister Genscher, who said in the Bundestag recently: "We demand that no weapons be used -- of either the nuclear or the conventional type. Only an all-embracing renunciation of the use of force can preserve peace."

At the same time, it is striking that the U.S. delegation still seeks to reduce everything to a simple reiteration of what has already been said on the question of the nonuse of force in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act. And certain U.S. allies try either to ignore this important principle or to call it into question as a confidence-building measure. At the same time, in setting up working parties at the conference, the participants agreed on the parallel consideration of political and military aspects of European security. This same principle formed the basis of the accord reached in mid-October 1985 on going over at the conference to concrete talks on a range of questions which could make up the outlines of a future agreement. Against this background the actions of the delegations of the United States and certain other NATO countries look at best like veiled attempts to play a double game and to some degree retard the work of the conference as it enters the homestretch.

The task of ensuring confidence and strengthening security in Europe is also met by the socialist countries' proposals on limiting the scale of military exercises in Europe and on giving notification of such exercises and of major troop movements and troop shipments. Their topicality is evident against the background of the scale of NATO's military maneuvers, which are constantly increasing both in terms of the number of troops involved and in the extent of territories covered. This creates a situation where it is basically difficult to distinguish military exercises from the deployment of troops for the commencement of hostilities. This entails an increase in tension, suspicion, and distrust in interstate relations and creates a threat to the European peoples' security.

As past sessions of the conference have shown, the position of the delegations of the United States and other NATO countries still leaves out the discussion of measures concerning an accord on air and naval strike forces equipped with the most sophisticated weapons of mass destruction and only amounts to measures concerning the activity of ground forces.

At the same time, the Natoites have not given up trying to substitute for effective confidence-building measures their antithesis: measures aimed at uncovering the deployment and structure of the European states' armed forces and obtaining unilateral advantages. Such actions cannot fail to arouse quite natural suspicions on the other side and thus, in no way accord with the main task of the conference.

People here hope that 1986, which has been declared International Peace Year, must be for the Stockholm forum a year of important decisions in favor of peace, confidence, and security in Europe and the return of interstate relations to the policy of detente.

Thanks to the constructive efforts of a number of states, the outlines are emerging, so to speak, of possible accords at the Stockholm Conference on Confidence-Building Measures and Security and Disarmament in Europe. All the participants will have to roll up their sleeves and get down to work so that positive results are achieved in Stockholm before the start of the next all-European meeting. This, as is known, is planned for next fall. So it is decision time.

CHEMICAL WEAPONS DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE RESUMES WORK

Session Opens

LD131717 Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Geneva, January 13 TASS -- The special committee on chemical weapons resumed its work in the framework of the Geneva Conference on Disarmament here today. The urgency of the solution of the problems of prohibiting chemical weapons is recognised by broad sections of the international public. Of principle importance is the fact that at the recent meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and President of the United States Ronald Reagan in Geneva it has been stressed that both countries are in favour of a general and complete prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of the existing stockpiles of such weapons.

The session of the special committee chaired by Stanislaw Turbanski of the Polish People's Republic will last till early February.

Delays Without 'Justification'

LD132213 Moscow TASS in English 2127 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Geneva, January 13 TASS -- The special NGO [nongovernmental organization] committee on disarmament, which resumed its work at the Palace of Nations here today, is considering questions of banning chemical weapons.

The task of eliminating this barbaric means of mass annihilation, including extremely dangerous binary chemical weapons, has become particularly acute. Talks on banning them, however, are being delayed without any justification whatsoever. The Soviet Union, jointly with other fraternal socialist countries, is consistently striving to accelerate the elaboration of an international convention based on the reciprocal manifestation of realism and good will on the part of all participants in the multilateral talks. Representatives of the socialist countries drew attention of their partners in the talks to the corresponding provisions of the Sofia (1985) statement by the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states.

Many speakers, addressing the special committee's session, stressed the principled significance of the joint declaration in favour of introducing a comprehensive ban on chemical weapons made by the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States at the summit in November 1985, complemented with a concrete accord to step up the efforts aimed at concluding an effective international convention to this effect.

The head of the Soviet delegation, Viktor Israelyan, stressed, that "it is necessary to implement in practical negotiations this positive potential of progress in destroying chemical weapons. It is justifiable to advance the objective of making the year 1986 a turning period in the multilateral talks on elaborating a convention on the prohibition and elimination of this weapon of mass annihilation."

REASONS BEHIND U.S. MORATORIUM STANCE DISCUSSED

LD131535 Moscow World Service in English 0910 GMT 13 Jan 86

["Disarmament, the Issue of the Day" program presented by Vladimir Posner with Dr Bogdanov and Dr Sergey Plekhanov of the Academy of Sciences United States of America and Canada Institute]

[Text] [Posner] Today on the program, as usual, we have Dr Bogdanov and Dr Plekhanov of the USA and Canada Studies Institute, your host Vladimir Posner, and this is our first program in the New Year. And I believe it would be a very good idea for us to look at what I think to be -- and many share that opinion -- an extremely important problem question and that is the unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions that the Soviet Union announced as of 6 August, Hiroshima Day, last year and stated that it would follow this moratorium until 1 January, 1986, and then it could become a permanent one provided the United States joined the Soviet initiative. However, this has not happened and there have been different arguments from the United States as to why that country does not wish to meet the Soviet Union halfway. One argument says -- and that I would say, is the Far Right -- what's good for the Soviets is bad for the United States. Now how do you feel about that particular argument? Who wants to start?

[Bogdanov] Well, that argument is very well-known to us. If you come back down to the history of the Soviet-American relations then you may see that argument emerging every time when the other side -- to be frank with you, Vladimir -- has no argument about our argument. Then they say it's good for them, it's bad for us and vice versa. And I believe that in the present time when we all of us, we talk about the new thinking, new approaches to the foreign policy, to the Soviet-American relations, it sounds to me, to put it mildly, very strange and I believe my friend and colleague Sergey Plekhanov will talk about that a little bit more. I would like to call your attention to the very important argument of the American side when they say now, and they use it more and more, that we cannot trust the Soviet side. We would like to follow them, but we cannot trust them.

[Posner] Dr Bogdanov, that is the second argument that we were going to come to and let's certainly look at that. Have we fully explored this idea of what the Soviets like, we must dislike. Do you have anything to add to that before we go on to the second, very important, argument?

[Plekhanov] Well, I think (?zero sum game) reasoning in the nuclear age is a prescription for disaster. Plainly speaking, there are 50,000 nuclear weapons in the world today. Just 1 percent, exploding just 1 percent of that armada would be enough to produce the effect of nuclear winter, that is produce a shroud of soot and dust up in the air which would prevent effectively sun rays from reaching the earth and the whole planet will just freeze up, everything, plants, animals, not to say, not to mention, people.

So, it's very easy to imagine a situation where just 1 percent or even more of that would be exploded, so...

[Posner, interrupting] Which is in no one's interest.

[Plekhanov] Which is in no one's interest. So once you start to look at the nuclear competition from the point of view that we are in the same boat and that the planet is very fragile, I think this arguement just evaporates.

[Posner] Well, I would tend to agree with that. Back to you, Dr Bogdanov: and you say that there is this American argument that we'd like to do it, but you simply cannot trust the Soviets.

[Bogdanov] That argument is being used very often by the other side and I would like just to cite some facts. You know, I wouldn't like to argue on that, just (?telling) emotionally 'no'. They are entitled to trust. I would like just to cite some facts and to begin with, Vladimir, from the '45...

[Posner, interrupting] 1945?

[Bogdanov] 1945, 1945. All in all, according to the latest calculations, there were something like 100... [corrects himself] 1,600 nuclear tests? That's...

[Posner, interrupting] Outright? (?That's) all nuclear countries?

[Bogdanov] All nuclear countries, but the major part of these, as much as 800 nuclear tests, were produced by the Americans. Now they say that how can we trust the Russians if they have already violated once in the history of the Soviet-American relations the famous Eisenhower-Khrushchev agreement on stopping nuclear tests. But I, I would like to (?trust) very much, but it's nothing but the distortion of the historical facts. The facts are, and I would like to remind that to my American listeners over there, that on 31 December of 1959 President Eisenhower made the declaration that beginning from that moment United States feels free to resume nuclear tests and they will pursue an active program of nuclear tests [words indistinct] aiming at the creation of a new type of weapon. That was exactly what he said on the 31 December, 1959. Then we answered to that declaration of American President that we would not resume nuclear tests until they don't resume.

[Posner] Until they resume?

[Bogdanov] Until they resume. So we'll stick to that moratorium. But at that time it was already to test their nuclear weapons and in October 1959, France tested its nuclear weapon. And we tested ours in response to the Western resuming, in response to the West resuming their nuclear tests and after Eisenhower's declaration that they feel free. They don't stick any more to the moratorium. Now you have a case of very clear distortion of historical trugh. And because unfortunately the other side has a very short historical memory, there is an impression, and deliberately created impression, that we have violated this moratorium. As you see, there is no bit of truth in that. Now historians and politicians discuss, now discuss, why President Eisenhower did it. I believe there was a very important factor which made him to make this declaration and the same factor is being played just now. I just would like to come back to the history and to build a kind of a bridge between the past and the present. Why? Because there was a very big pressure on him from the Congress, from the Pentagon, and from the Commission on Atomic Energy to resume -- to resume American nuclear tests.

[Posner] Why?

[Bogdanov] Because they were already ready with the laboratory research, with new weapons, nuclear weapons,and they needed to test it, otherwise they couldn't deploy it.

[Posner] That reminds me of SDI a little bit.

[Bogdanov] Yes, yes,that's why I would like to build that -- that -- that, if you like that historical bridge. And mind you the biggest pressure was coming from Livermore Laboratory and from famous American scientist Dr Teller. He was, you know, in head of that pressure, organizing that pressure on President Eisenhower and there they had two arguments. One was that you cannot trust the Russians you see, they say, and the second argument was we need new weapons to deter Russians, and we have to test them. What puzzles me, to be frank with you, if there's anybody in this administration and maybe in the (ACDA) or in Pentagon and somewhere else who remembers all that, who is the bearer, if you like, of the historical truth?

[Posner] Yes.

[Bogdanov] I am afraid there is none, that's why you have these kind of distortions which are really no good, no good.

[Posner] Dr Bogdanov, if what you say is true then certainly the majority of our listners are also not familiar with that past history. So I'd like simply to sum up, very quickly that the period you are talking about begins in March, 1958, when the Soviet Union announced a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests, this is 1958, March, and called, naturally, upon all the other nuclear club nations of the world to join in this moratorium, which did not happen. As a matter of fact, there was wide testing. Then in October of the same year the Soviet Union made a statement that it considered itself to be free of that self-imposed moratorium since no one, not one country, had really followed its lead. However, having said this, the Soviet Union did not test, it did not test until the summer of 1961. So in fact, for over 3 years the Soviet Union had no nuclear tests at all, which I think is very important to keep in mind.

Now to move into another question, the question of verification. The United States and the West time and again have said that that is the issue, that verification, the impossibility of verification, the problems of verification are what make it impossible to accept a total ban on nuclear tests. Now is this so? Dr Pleknanov, how would you handle that question? Is it really all that difficult?

[Plekhanov] No, it's not all that difficult and according to the best information available and to the analysis of experts in the field -- seismologists, nuclear physicists -- a nuclear explosion can very well be identified by the existing national technical means. However, there are some people who continue to advance the argument that national technical means, or NTMS, as they are called, are insufficient. And in response to that, there has been movement in bilateral relations, there has been movement in the Soviet position on the issue. In fact we, the Soviet Union and the United States and Britain, were in the process of negotiating a comprehensive test ban treaty. Those negotiations were broken off...

[Posner, interrupting] This was when?

[Plekhanov] Suspended -- that was in the late seventies -- and the negotiations were suspended in 1980. The treaty was ready 95 percent and one of the provisions dealt with verification.

According to the agreed provisions, in addition to national technical means there were to be installed certain types of equipment on the other side's territory which would monitor tests and would see to it that the treaty is not violated. Actually, the same kind of provision is now, has now been repeated in the statements by the Soviet Union concerning the possible conclusion of such a treaty. Now in 1981 the Reagan administration decided not to resume talks on the comprehensive test ban, so it was not our fault that work on the comprehensive test ban was discontinued in the early 1980's.

But the important thing is that we continue to adhere to this policy on verification. Number one, national technical means can do the job perfectly well, but in addition to that there should be so-called black boxes -- equipment which one side installs on the territory of the other side in order to monitor the ban -- and thirdly, if there are doubts about the efficiency of that equipment or about any kind of activity, there should be observation teams sent to the other side.

[Posner] You're talking about checks on site?

[Plekhanov] On site, the ban on tests, on nuclear tests, so the verification issue doesn't exist. It's a non-issue, to the extent that it's being used, it's being used as a result of the public not being informed about the situation.

[Posner] Okay. So to sum up the verification problem as it were -- which is not a problem -- we have national means of observation, we have black boxes on each other's territories as a real possibility, we have on-site inspection when necessary, and I also think we should keep in mind the six countries -- Argentina, Mexico, Sweden, Greece, India and Tanzania -- that have offered their territories for monitoring stations that would be able also to monitor nuclear tests. Now then, we've looked at the different arguments, we've looked at the argument that says what the Soviets like we should dislike, we've looked at the argument you can't trust the Soviets, we've just now studied the argument about verification, have we missed anything?

[Bogdanov] Yes, we have missed one thing, because my, my, my belief is that we are talking a little bit too much on technicalities. I am sorry for that. But there is one very emotional side of this story; a very emotional, a very important one. Moratorium is important by itself of course, I agree with that there is no doubt. But there is another side, which is spirit of Geneva. What does it mean, spirit of Geneva? Does it need some support, does it need some blocks to build it really, to materialize it? Yes, of course, and moratorium is one of the stumbling -- you know -- one of the very important blocks in that spirit of Geneva. And, if you like it, it's a test of the goodwill of the sides taking part in the process of improving Soviet-American relations. For us moratorium -- will they join us or not -- is a testing ground; how they are sincere about improving, really improving Soviet-American relations and overall international environment. And number two, to be frank, I, I, you know, as a student of what is going on in the United States, I come to this very firm conclusion, that the story repeats in the sense that the building up of new arms, nuclear arms, is more important for this administration than ending the arms race. That's my conclusion, which is a very important one to my mind.

[Posner] Anything to add to that, Dr Plekhanov?

[Plekhanov] Well, it's a sad story, I have the same conclusion. In fact, in recent weeks, the arguments emanating from the U.S. Government on the issue of why not join the Soviet moratorium are more and more concentrated on a very simple and stark idea: that the United States needs to continue nuclear tests. And they say why they need it. They have a whole range of new offensive nuclear weapons that they want to test, to see whether they kill enough people or not. They'd be able to do enough damage. Then there is an important element of the SDI program. The "Star Wars" program has as one of its elements the laser, an x-ray laser which is supposed to work on the energy of a nuclear explosion.

So they want to carry out that test and the important thing to bear in mind is that if those tests of the laser are conducted in a close to real situation -- that is, up in the air -- that will be a violation of the existing 1963 treaty which bans all nuclear tests in the atmosphere. So it's not only the possibility of a new treaty, of a comprehensive test ban that is in danger from this program, but the existence of the old and time-tested prohibition on nuclear tests.

[Posner] So the bottom line really is that the military establishment in the United States simply needs to keep on testing, desires...

[Bogdanov] Let me -- let me interrupt for a while, Vladimir. I would put it like that: Political military establishments...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] Yes,

[Bogdanov] Two different...

[Plekhanov, interrupting] It's not just the military and you know -- the -- the problem is that there are people in power in Washington who want to keep the nuclear testing program. But I'm convinced that there are other people who are sensible enough to understand that there is a good chance, maybe the best chance in a generation now...

[Bogdanov, interrupting] A unique chance, a unique chance.

[Posner] Okay, at any rate you say that there are sensible people in the states and hopefully they will take advantage of this unique situation; it's something to look forward to.

U.S. LASER RESEARCH SHOWS OFFENSIVE CAPABILITY

LD131132 Moscow TASS in English 1112 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] San Francisco, January 13 TASS -- Laser weapons being developed in the USA as part of the "star wars" program are offensive weapons capable of destroying a large city or even the population centres of a whole country within a matter of hours, the LOS ANGELES TIMES says in an article quoting the findings of a study done recently by California's R and D Associates. The findings of the authors of that study are backed by physicist Caroline L. Herzenberger, who contributed an article to the latest issue of the physics and society journal published by the American Physical Society.

"High-intensity laser light from such weapons could also be used offensively to unleash massive fire storms, possibly producing an environmental disaster similar to a 'nuclear winter'," the newspaper says. According to it, lasers can be used against enemy conventional forces.

"Mass fires might be expected to generate smoke in amounts comparable to the amounts generated in some major nuclear exchange scenarios," Herzenberger says. The study done by R and D Associates also points out that lasers could be used offensively to incinerate enemy cities.

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD102358 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 10 Jan 86

["International Situation: Questions and Answers" program, presented by Vladimir Pashko, All-Union Radio foreign political commentator, with Sergey Ugarov, adviser to the CEMA Secretariat]

[Excerpt] [Pashko] The document of the CEMA countries' integrated program for scientific and technical cooperation up to the year 2000 which was signed in Moscow has not gone unnoticed in the West. There is a question about the capitalist countries' reactions to the program from Comrades Simashko from Krasnodar and Yuriy Popov from Simferopol. I have passed your request on to Sergey Aleksandrovich Ugarov, adviser of the CEMA Secretariat.

[Ugarov] It is a common feature of the Western press on this question that it does not contain any serious criticisms of the essence of the program. Nonetheless, many journalists could not restrain themselves from making incompetent criticisms which repeat the old favorite themes of bourgeois propaganda. For example, the newspaper FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG returned to the old thesis of decisions being dictated by the USSR and even went so far as to say that the setting up of fundamentally new types of organizations which will play the leading role in the CEMA program has allegedly begun at the demand of the USSR. And the French newspaper LE MONDE simply stated that the program, compiled at the request of the Soviet side, only spreads to the CEMA member countries projects in new technology which have already been confirmed in the USSR.

What can be said about such statements? The integrated program of scientific and technical progress of the CEMA countries is not an invention of the USSR. It was drafted by international collectives of scientists and specialists from all the CEMA countries and it is based on the national programs of scientific and technical progress. The fact that the Soviet side, in response to a request from the other countries of the community, has undertaken to coordinate the work on setting up the program is quite natural as it is precisely the USSR which possesses the greatest scientific-technical and production potential and experience in carrying out such work. It is also natural that new forms of cooperation are planned during the implementation of the program. In particular, the interindustry scientific-technical complexes now being set up in the USSR are planned to become the main organizations for coordinating the work on the problems mentioned in the program. These complexes are indeed being set up on the decision of the party and state organs of the USSR and they will indeed play the leading role in implementing the program. But this does not at all mean that organizations of this type must be set up in all the other CEMA member countries as the above-mentioned FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG said.

Nor have they forgotten about the striving for autarchy which is ascribed to the countries of the socialist community; the newspaper NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG has called this the aim of the CEMA program. This same newspaper even went on to say that the session frequently stressed the necessity of uniting the efforts of the CEMA countries. And this, allegedly, in light of the contemporary political situation, implies recognition of the military significance of the program adopted by CEMA.

It would be possible not to take these arguments seriously because they are completely at variance with the real state of affairs. And to convince oneself of this, it is sufficient to read the text of the program as published in the press. However, I would like to say a few words on this subject.

First of all, like all previous CEMA documents of a principled nature, the program stresses its open character. The CEMA countries once again reach out their hands toward this program for the purpose of joint action, since they are convinced that international economic cooperation should be of a global nature. The CEMA member countries are intent on continuing to participate in the worldwide division of labor and scientific-technological cooperation. However, they decline all the more resolutely the policy of discrimination and prohibition which are applied in a number of international economic relations, and contradict the very essence of scientific-technological progress.

Yes, the CEMA member countries, by way of implementing the program, want to strive for technical and technological invulnerability from the countries of the West. But such an approach is by no means dictated by a desire for autarchy, but rather only by a perfectly natural reply to the policy of prohibitions against the sale of modern technology to the socialist countries, the restrictive lists of COCOM, and other discriminatory measures.

Who can reproach the socialist countries for wanting to protect themselves from the consequences of such a discriminatory policy by the Western countries in the future.

And, finally a few words about the character of the program. Among its tasks are the development of social and economic progress, increasing the level of well-being and the quality of life of people, the development of culture, education, and a fuller satisfaction of the needs of the population. The peaceful orientation of the program is so apparent that it is necessary to have a very great gift of imagination to find even a hint of military intents. In conclusion, I would like to comment that despite the remarks and implications which are contained in the Western press, in not one of the reports which we have at our disposal at present is the possibility of realizing the integrated program of scientific and technical progress of the CEMA member countries placed in doubt. And this is not surprising, if one bears in mind that the countries of the socialist community have repeatedly demonstrated to the world their ability to successfully resolve the most difficult tasks by way of cooperation.

BRUTENTS ON LIBERATED LANDS' ANTI-IMPERIALISM

PM101600 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Jan 86 First Edition pp 3, 4

[K. Brutents "Questions of Theory" article under the rubric "Toward the 27th CPSU Congress": "The Liberated Countries and the Anti-Imperialist Struggle"]

[Text] The former colonial and semicolonial world presents a complex and dynamic picture of profound political, social, and economic shifts. Along different paths and with different measures of success, the liberated countries are following a line of strengthening the political independence they have gained and of overcoming the consequences of the accursed period of slavery, a line of economic development. This is in itself a gigantic task, since its solution presupposes changing the living conditions and way of life of hundreds of millions of people. It is, however, made doubly complicated by the forces of imperialism. As the draft new edition of the CPSU Program notes, the resistance of the liberated countries' peoples to these actions is growing.

1.

The states which emerged from the ruins of colonial empires are often described as young.

They really are not all that old in terms of age. Nevertheless, experience has already convincingly demonstrated the law-governed nature of the birth of these states, refuting the colonialist-racist myths about their "unviability." It has also been confirmed that a large group of states has appeared in the international arena as a long-term phenomenon, a group of states brought together and united by common features and interests, despite the differences existing in their levels of economic development, social and political system, national traditions, and approaches to various problems. These common aspects are the colonial past and the need to overcome its legacy; the acute contradition between political independence and economic dependence; the desire to play a greater role in world politics and economics; a specific approach toward some international issues that is conditioned as a rule by their objective position; and imperialism's attitude toward these countries as targets of neocolonial policy. The continuing sociopolitical and economic differentiation does not eliminate these common features, but gives them specific forms of manifestation.

The liberated countries occupy a singular position in international life. They generally no longer belong to the political system uniting the imperialist states, but still remain within the world capitalist economy, being its exploited and unequal part. Even socialist-oriented countries are to some extent not free from this dependence because of close ties with the world capitalist economy, although the direction of development they have chosen and their political line provide the greatest opportunities for resolute opposition to imperialist diktat. And they really are the most consistent anti-imperialist force, firmly upholding their chosen path, which accords with the interests of the people's masses and reflects their thirst for a new, fair social system. The liberated countries possess gigantic human and natural resources, but the "cream" from their utilization is skimmed off by transnational corporations. Two-thirds of the world' population and over two-thirds of basic mineral reserves in the nonsocialist world are concentrated in these countries, including the Latin American states (which, despite all their specific features, are similar to the former in many respects. Yet these countries still remain the world's largest area of backwardness, poverty, and deprivation. This, too, is what constitutes their "special nature" as a group of states and their distinguishing feature.

The past decades have seen a strengthening of the independence and a growth of the international clout of the liberated countries. This development of events was foreseen by V.I. Lenin himself.

On the world wide scale, this process has served primarily as a factor in the weakening of imperialism's positions. And in the framework of the capitalist world, it contributes to weakening the United States' dominant position, undermining the complete dominance of a handful of imperialist powers, and developing a "multipolar" situation. The majority of liberated countries occupy anti-imperialist positions on fundamental international questions and play an active part in the struggle for peace and against the arms race.

The internal life of liberated countries has also changed. Their national institutions and state structures have not only taken shape but have also strengthened. The influence of archaic social relations has diminished, albeit to varying extents and not everywhere, including on the basis of agrarian reforms. A number of countries have adopted social and labor legislation that has improved the position of some working people, and the population's literacy has risen considerably.

The economic complexion of a large number of liberated countries today corresponds even less with the established description of them as "agrarian and raw material countries." Over the last 20 years the physical volume of developing countries' gross industrial output has increased more than 3.5 times. Particular mention must be made of the fact that a wave of nationalization of foreign monopolies' property has swept through these countries.

Countries have emerged in Latin America, Asia, and the Pacific where solid industrial structures, and in some cases even monopolistic forms of capitalist ownership, have developed.

The qualitative and quantitative growth of the working class is a fact of historic significance. In the early eighties the developing countries had 180 million industrial and agrarian proletarians, in other words more than one-half of the total number in the nonsocialist world. The workers movement has taken a great step forward. There are 57 communist and about 40 revolutionary-democratic parties in these countries.

It is a correct conclusion that the postcolonial development of the liberated countries, backed by the experience of several decades of independence and underpinning it with a solid political, social, psychological, and in many cases also an economic base, has in many respects made final the break with the colonial past. And this even is significant as a landmark.

2. The shifts achieved in many liberated countries at the same time do not mean that the fundamental problems caused by the colonial and semicolonial past have been resolved. Above all, as has already been noted, there has been no fundamental change in these countries' position in the world capitalist economy.

The gap between capitalist states and developing countries in terms of levels of per capita gross domestic product (despite the approximately identical rates of relative growth in it) is constantly widening. Financial indebtedness to imperialist states has reached the astronomical sum of about $1,000 billion. Many liberated countries have also lapsed into a position of food dependence.

The imperialists, exploiting the economic difficulties of developing countries, are now engaged in a campaign to discredit the path traveled by those countries during the years of their independence. The United States is exerting unprecedentedly intense pressure to force them to open their doors wide to transnational corporations and to abandon all control over the activity of private capital. This neocolonialist campaign is developing with the framework of the policy of imperialism, whose aim is to "dismantle" their gains and in particular to weaken the role of the state as a shield of independent development.

Colonial domination has had a deep distorting impact on almost all aspects of life in formerly enslaved countries. It would be unrealistic to expect this legacy to be eliminated "at a stroke."

Bourgeois and pro-bourgeois circles, which are inclined to perceive the sovereignty that has been gained as their own class trophy, have come to power in many countries. They are striving to usurp the fruits of independence and use it as a bridgehead to consolidate and augment their own social privileges and to step up the exploitation of the masses, no longer sharing anything with anyone. They embark on an orgy of enrichment, sabotage the implementation of urgent transformations, and persecute democratic forces. Their policy aggravates the already profound contradictions of capitalist development.

A certain role has also been played in a number of instances by mistakes in economic strategy. Nevertheless, the main obstacle to a fundamental change in the liberated countries' position is still imperialism with its neocolonialist policy and the sum total of unequal relations whose victims are these countries. Imperialism not only doomed these countries to prolonged colonial slavery but, as the draft new edition of the CPSU Program notes, still pursues a policy of plundering them.

The present difficulties encountered by developing countries are linked to a considerable extent with the effect of the crisis phenomena in the economy of capitalist states and their desire to extricate themselves from this situation through intensified exploitation of the "Third World." The measures applied in imperialist states to introduce energy- and materials-saving technologies, resulting in falling prices for many types of raw materials, are becoming a tool for mounting pressure on these countries within the framework of neocolonialist policy. The imperialist powers are blocking by all possible means all attempts to change the unequal economic relations between themselves and the liberated countries.

Having found it impossible to reshape the political map of the world as it did in the past, imperialism is striving to undermine the sovereignty of liberated states in roundabout ways, making particularly active use of economic levers.

Economic influence is exercised partially by methods which are to a large extent reproductions of relations from the colonial and semicolonial period with, of course, the appropriate modifications. But the imperialists are increasingly turning toward making use of the higher level of economic development achieved by a certain group of liberated countries and the greater role played there by capitalist relations. They rely on more intensive ties with the industrial centers of capitalism, primarily on the basis of transnational corporations, activities and the interweaving of the interests of privileged circles in these countries with the interests of the imperialist bourgeoisie. Active use is made of the processes of transferring new equipment and technologies to bind the developing countries. Indeed this is precisely the effect which the imperialist strategy of stimulating capitalist relations hopes for.

At the same time attempts are also being made along the same tracks to attach these countries again to the political system of imperialism using projects like the "Pacific Community." It is also impossible not to mention the fact that imperialism constantly supports and nutures corrupt ruling cliques following an antinational policy. There have been a number of cases when bourgeoisified feudal-plutocratic and bureaucratic circles have formed singular class alliances with imperialism on the basis of close economic ties and involvement in the activity of major financial and industrial groups from the capitalist world.

As far as the countries with a socialist orientation are concerned, particularly broad use is made of undisguised military pressure in parallel with the economic levers.

Imperialism's neocolonial policy is one of the main reasons for the emergence of so-called regional conflicts and the fact that they remain unresolved. Opposition to neocolonialism remains an issue of the greatest urgency for liberated countries, since it affects their historical destiny. In addition to internal factors, the solution of their problems depends on the strength and consistencey of this opposition and on the stepping up of the anti-imperialist struggle.

3. The attitude displayed toward imperialism today still serves as a watershed in the world of liberated countries, as a criterion of the national-patriotic stance of ruling regimes and all social and political forces.

Of course, the avenues and forms of anti-imperialist struggle are not immutable. Enormous importance is given for example, to repulsing imperialism's aggressive line and to curbing the arms race which is being whipped up by it and in which the developing countries are also getting involved.

The question of the developing countries' foreign debt has come to the fore recently. Its economic importance is evident. But the political aspect of the problem in question is no less important. In actual fact, the issue concerns a kind of financial noose being used to establish control over these countries' economic development and political course.

Imperialist policy is objectively against the basic social forces in liberated countries including the local bourgeoisie (even though its anti-imperialist potential at the present stage boils down primarily to a negative attitude toward neocolonialism, including on the basis of intercapitalist conflicts) but excluding corrupt bureaucratic cliques and those bourgeois circles which are prepared to play the role of modern compradors. And even though this does not indicate either a clear awareness of the antagonism between these forces or a uniform attitude toward imperialism, and even less so a readiness to play an active part in the struggle against it, it nevertheless provides a prerequisite of the viability of the anti-imperialist movement and the collaboration of different political and social movements within its framework.

Under present-day conditions in the "Third World," anti-imperialism and antineocolonialism are often more or less closely combined with a noticeably intensifying pull toward social justice and also with nationalist tendencies. Experience confirms the Marxist-Leninist conclusion that the development of historically belated capitalism in liberated countries at a time when the world capitalist economy is dominated by transnational corporations involves particularly high social costs.

These tendencies, moods, and political streams are a powerful force here, and their complex combinations create a kind of weave of anti-imperialist movements.

The developing countries remain a vast reservoir of social fuel and anti-imperialist feelings. Their objective base has neither narrowed nor weakened, but has, on the contrary, expanded and strengthened. Their political and psychological prerequisites are backed by the accumulated experience and traditions of struggle. At the same time, the postcolonial period of the liberation struggle's development -- when anti-imperialism continued to draw strength primarily from the problems, emotions, and memories of the colonial years and was, so to speak on the surface -- is coming to an end.

Anti-imperialism today demands a higher political awareness and is increasingly often distinguished by a more varied and, in many cases more definite socialist hue. Anti-imperialism today has a greater potential than ever before, but it is no longer, so to speak, "at hand." A gap, which can be closed only as a result of the activity of national-patriotic progressive forces, separates the powerful feelings rooted deeply among the masses and spontaneous anti-imperialist principles from their emergence to the surface of political life and their active manifestation.

Imperialism's attempts to reverse the course of events in the former colonial and semi-colonial world on a historical scale are, of course, nothing but a reactionary utopia in the light of the balance of forces already prevailing in the international arena. But active opposition to the policy of imperialism is of key significance for the implementation of long-term historical goals.

The anti-imperialist struggle of formerly enslaved peoples, while opening the way to the solution of urgent problems in these countries, is also of great international importance. All democratic and peace-loving forces on earth are interested in the enhancement of its contribution to the worldwide struggle against the imperialist policy of aggression and diktat.

The CPSU, the draft new edition of its program says, "proceeds on the basis that the entry of formerly enslaved peoples onto the path of independence, the emergence of dozens of new states, and the raising of their relative weight in world politics and economics are among the distinguishing features of the contemporary epoch.

"The liberated peoples, as Lenin himself foresaw, are faced with playing a great role in the fate of all mankind. THE CPSU ADVOCATES THAT THESE PEOPLES' MOUNTING INFLUENCE INCREASINGLY PROMOTE THE CAUSE OF PEACE AND SOCIAL PROGRESS." [Uppercase words published in boldface]

Our party consistently implements a line of expanding the Soviet Union's friendly ties with liberated countries. The USSR builds its relations with them on the basis of strict respect for their independence and equality, and supports these countries' struggle against imperialism's neocolonialist policy, against the remnants of colonialism, for peace and universal security.

ZAGLADIN VIEWS PROSPECTS FOR PEACE, PROSPERITY

PM091539 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 1 Jan 86 pp 3-5

[Vadim Zagladin article: "1986 -- No Ordinary Year"]

[Text] Every individual and every nation expects something of a New Year. The turn of the year engenders hopes of better things to come. There perhaps is not a person anywhere in the world who does not give thought to how the problems left over from the outgoing year should be resolved.

In this respect 1986 is no exception. At the same time it differs from all preceding years. For us Soviet people and for all mankind. Wherein does this difference lie? What are the specific features of 1986?

Perhaps we should begin with our own domestic affairs. For the New Year is sure to bring us much that is new and momentous.

On the other hand, in our day and age, at this time of accelerating internationalization of the economic and the generally public life of humanity, the outlook for each people unquestionably depends on the trend of developments in the world arena. And, of course, on how the basic, paramount question at the end of the 20th century -- the question of war and peace -- will be resolved.

The dialectical interdependence of internal political and international problems is a hallmark of the eve of the 21st century. It is from this that our Leninist party proceeds in its deliberations and decisions. Taking the realities of the situation into account, we say: 1986 should above all be a year of the real strengthening of peace.

I.

The United Nations Organization has proclaimed 1986 the International Year of Peace. This important decision prompted by a deep sense of responsibility is supported by the entire world community. True, this support is not equally meaningful everywhere. Our country, like most countries of the world, believes that the Year of Peace should be one of practical steps to terminate the arms race; it should mark a turn from confrontation to detente.

But there is also another approach: While welcoming the proclamation of 1986 as a Year of Peace, some governments have no intention of renouncing policies pursuing altogether different ends. They do not propose to put an end to the arms race. One cannot help but ask: Are they not seeking to use the very idea of a year of peace as a mask for a policy of confrontation?

The situation in the international arena is so grave that any attempt to camouflage the growth of the danger of war, or the threat of catastrophe, by pompous rhetoric can only increase that danger. For such attempts are tantamount to deception of people anxious about their future, to misleading them, to dulling their vigilance and thereby lowering the pitch of the antiwar struggle and clearing the way for the continuation of the irresponsible and suicidal arms buildup.

Doublethink, lip service to peace while accelerating the material preparation of war, has always been odious and has always presented new dangers to the cause of life. Today it is doubly odious and dangerous.

Nineteen eighty-five left behind great hopes. Hopes that peace will be strengthened and relations between countries and peoples improved. These hopes have come to be called the "spirit of Geneva."

Indeed, at the Geneva meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan the sides agreed:

-- That nuclear war, as well as any other kind of war, between the Soviet Union and the United States must be ruled out. In a nuclear conflict there can be no victors;

-- That neither side will seek military superiority. The leaders of the two countries confirmed the agreement of January 8, 1985, in conformity with which the subject of the Geneva talks is to be non-militarization of outer space and reduction of nuclear armaments on earth;

-- That the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons has to be made more effective;

-- That such a barbarous instrument of mass destruction as chemical weapons should be prohibited and abolished;

-- That the sides will help to bring the Stockholm conference to speedy completion. Its final document should include both concrete commitments to refrain from the use of force and mutually acceptable confidence-building measures.

Understandings were also reached as regards the further promotion of contacts between the two countries, including contacts at the highest level.

Some of our Soviet readers might ask: Why repeat this all over again? After all, we already know all that.

But repetition is necessary. Primarily because in our opinion the Geneva understandings are not simply the words that went into the joint statement. Of course, such statement are not treaties. Nevertheless, Moscow regards it as a binding commitment underwritten by the leaders of the two countries. We see in the Geneva understandings a programme of practical action, including action in 1986. This being the case, they must be repeated, moreover, translated into practice.

There is also another reason for repeating them. During meetings with visitors from the United States and a number of other Western countries in the final weeks of 1985, we found that many of them did not know exactly what the Soviet Union and the United States agreed upon in Geneva. As a rule, they knew that further meetings were planned. But specifically what was to be done? On what areas did Mikhail Gorbachev and Ronald Reagan consider it necessary to concentrate efforts? This they did not know.

This was partly due to the way Western information media report events, even events as important as Geneva, especially if they are not to the taste of one or another influential quarter. But even more to blame are precisely these influential quarters, primarily the U.S. military-industrial complex.

Considerable effort was exerted before Geneva to torpedo the Soviet-American summit or at least to make it meaningless. Now, as Mikhail Gorbachev observed during a conversation with Professor Bernard Lown, these quarters have mounted an attack on the outcome of Geneva along various lines and by diverse means.

More money is being channelled to military space programmes in the U.S. under a record military budget. Target satellites intended for testing anti-missile weapons are being launched into orbit. More and more underground nuclear tests are being carried out. Campaigns are mounted against normalization of relations with the U.S.S.R. against the strengthening of mutual trust between our countries. Ever new allocations are earmarked for the purchase of arms for mercenaries on the rampage in Nicaragua and Angola, Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

A few words about these appropriations: U.S. actions in relation to the above-mentioned countries have come to be called "undeclared wars." But would it not be in place to change the designation? After all, if official Washington spokesmen openly call for changes in the regimes of a number of countries and Congress openly allocates hundreds of millions of dollars for this purpose, can these wars be described as "undeclared"? They are instances of direct aggression. That is how they are regarded by all sober-minded people.

But let us return to the subject of Geneva. The "spirit of Geneva" is the legacy 1985 left to the year just ushered in. The transatlantic hawks, however, are clearly preparing their own present to the newborn year. They are bent on turning the Year of Peace into a year of the continuation and intensification of confrontation. Geneva is for them, if not a bad word, then something to be forgotten.

From the very beginning it was clear that realization of the Geneva understandings would require of both sides no little effort, a fresh approach to many things, and, above all, the political will to work in this direction on the part of the leaders of both countries. The Soviet Union demonstrated that will in the year now past by undertaking unilateral actions requiring courage, determination and awareness of the realities of the present-day world in order to open the way to a peaceful future. The most important of these steps was the unilateral termination of all nuclear explosions as of August 6, 1985. Our country thereby showed that we are ready to refrain from modernizing nuclear weapons and from developing new types of these weapons, that are prepared to embark on the road leading to the gradual elimination of this type of weapons.

We have been told that prohibition of nuclear tests presupposes verification. Right enough. Experience has already shown that verification of explosions is perfectly possible by national means. This was proved, for instance, when Soviet experts detected American low-yield nuclear tests of which no notification had been given.

But we are prepared to go even farther. To make use of the openings afforded by the proposal of leaders of India, Sweden, Argentina, Tanzania, Greece, and Mexico. In the event of an effective ban on explosions we would not be opposed to appropriate on-the-spot verification. This is our position. We are ready resolutely to forge ahead.

The U.S. side, at least at this writing, has not evinced similar readiness. And some American sources make no secret of why this is so. The reason is that the U.S. is developing new types of weapons, space weapons included.

It should be borne in mind that one of the U.S. "arguments" in favour of the Strategic Defence Initiative was that it supposedly will lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons. Now it is admitted that nuclear devices are essential for the realization of SDI. Could 1986 mark the beginning of the saturation of outer space with nuclear death?

One does not want to believe this. But unwillingness to believe is not enough. What is needed is struggle -- unceasing, active, steadily mounting struggle. That struggle is under way. It is waged by the socialist countries. In the recent period the socialist community has on repeated occasions (in Sofia, Prague, Moscow and Bucharest) clearly declared that it is firmly opposed to the militarization of outer space and is for the ending of nuclear tests and for the reduction of nuclear arsenals. This struggle is waged also by the non-aligned and neutral countries, and by diverse political organizations, including the Communist Socialist and Social Democratic Parties. It is being waged by the biggest mass movement of the end of the 20th Century -- the anti-war movement. The stake in this fight is enormous, of global dimensions; it is a matter of surviving together or dying together. Humanity wants to live.

Nineteen eighty-six has been proclaimed International Year of Peace. Actually it is a case of making it a year of struggle for peace. We all want this struggle to produce results. We want this year to mark a real turn toward peace in world affairs.

II.

But will it be a year of such a turn? We said above that in our time international politics and the internal affairs of every nation are closely interlinked. The relationship is reciprocal. Looking at things from our Soviet standpoint, from the positions of a large socialist country, we realize full well that international developments depend to a great extent on how the Soviet people manage their domestic affairs.

It should be recalled that when the Washington hawks turned from detente to renewed confrontation in the mid-seventies, they hoped, among other things, that the socialist countries and primarily the Soviet Union would not be able to cope with the economic problems that asserted themselves at the time. They thought that socialism would be weakened and hence become more "pliable" and capitulate under Western pressure. This was the point of departure in the planning of diverse boycotts and in giving effect to them. This was the underlying consideration in exerting pressure on Poland and Cuba and in threatening now one, now another socialist country with sanctions.

But they miscalculated, and not for the first time. Again it was plan that, as a social system, socialism possesses a tremendous inbuilt potential, which if properly used, enables it to resolve the most complex problems. Today this is beginning to be recognized, true, reluctantly.

This perhaps underlies the increased inclination on the part of certain highly influential quarters in Western Europe, and also in overseas countries, towards a measure of normalization of relations with our country. If this is so, the future will to no small extent depend on our further development and its results.

A dual responsibility devolves on every Soviet citizen, on every citizen of the socialist world: responsibility for the future of his country (and hence also for his own future) and responsibility for the cause of peace. Everyone in the countries of the new society should understand this. What the West should understand is that socialism is aware of its responsibility and is doing its utmost to act accordingly.

Fully conscious of his dual responsibility, the citizen of the Soviet Union enters 1986 aware that this is not just another New Year and not even just the first year of another five-year plan "It," Mikhail Gorbachev said of the incoming year at the recent session of the U.S.S.R. Supreme Soviet, "ushers in a qualitatively new stage in the development of Soviet society."

"Qualitatively new stage" is not simply a formula. Behind these words are our far-reaching plans, the creative, pioneering designs of our party. They have a bearing on all aspects of the life of the Soviet people.

Basic to the concept of the country's future is the acceleration of the social and economic development of our society. This concept is set forth and substantiated in the draft of the new text of the party programme, the main guidelines for the development of the U.S.S.R. in the coming five-year period and up to the beginning of the 21st century, and also in the materials of recent plenary meetings of the CPSU Central Committee. This concept marks a new stage both in our theory and our practice. To all intents and purposes the realization of this concept has already begun: measures adopted by the party and supported by the people made it possible to achieve notable results already last year, despite all the difficulties. Our economic growth rate went up. But the main work is of course still ahead. It has to be tackled at once beginning with the first days of 1986.

The plan for this year provides for higher rates of growth of industrial and agricultural production than those of the 11th Five-Year Plan. It is of course not only a matter of quantitative indicators. How the plan targets are to be achieved is one of our principal concerns at the year's beginning. The object is more output on the basis of a qualitative advance all along the line -- more efficient labour and more effective organization of work, higher productivity, reduction of the expenditure of energy and metal per unit of output, and, of course, better planning and management of the entire process of social production.

These questions are being discussed everywhere in the country, and primarily at the pre-congress party conferences. For 1986 is the year of the 27th Congress of the CPSU, now less than two months off. The materials endorsed by the October 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee for submission to the congress are the subject of a nation-wide discussion, with criticism and self-criticism as the keynote. For depth and breadth this discussion perhaps has no precedent.

The Western press is none too eager to carry information about life in the Soviet Union. On the whole, very little is written about us, and especially about our achievements. This is understandable, for the truth about socialism exposes the anti-socialist lies and blasts the vicious legends that have been circulated about us for nearly seven decades now. At present, however, many media have begun to carry reports about the discussions under way in the U.S.S.R., about the critical remarks made, and appointments to various official positions.

Why? The reason is clear: our self-criticism is interpreted as a sign of weakness, as "proof" of all the shopworn anti-Soviet legends. A hunt is on for "setbacks" suffered by socialism.

But again they miscalculate. For our criticism and self-criticism is not a sign of weakness but evidence of the strength of Soviet society, and of socialist society in general, testimony to the resolve of the party and the people not merely to lay bare shortcomings but to overcome them, to find new reserves to draw on, to give added impetus to the country's development. The emphasis placed by the party on openness, on the deepening of criticism and self-criticism is a sign of its confidence in itself, a sign of the indestructible unity of the party and the people.

As regards speculation about personnel changes, there is nothing out of the ordinary in such changes. They have always been prompted by the imperatives of life and always will be. At the same time such changes today are also an indication of the higher demands placed by party organizations, rank-and-file members of the party and non-party people in general on their leaders, thereby ensuring a constant inflow of fresh forces while seeing to it that tried and tested cadres are given due recognition. This exacting approach is also a sign of strength. At the same time it shows that the party and the people are determined to forge ahead, to improve the style and methods of party and administrative work.

It may be confidently asserted that the most important achievement since the April 1985 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee is the heightened activity of the membership of the party, of all Soviet citizens. Why the most important? Because you can work out the finest plans and ideal guideposts to the future, but they will remain mere dreams unless they are carried out in practice. And that is where what is known as the "human factor" comes in.

The human factor does not lend itself to any simplistic definition. In it are capsuled the conscientious, creative work of the right man in the right place; all manner of incentives to such work, and this includes better material and spiritual conditions of life; constant observance of the socialist principles of social justice, which implies consistent struggle against any departure from these principles; the moral rectitude of society, overcoming all digressions from it, beginning with drunkenness and ending with money-grubbing, deception, flattery and careerism.

Talking with people abroad or with visitors to our country one is sometimes asked: Are you not utopians? Are you not trying to change human nature overnight? Is that possible?

No, we do not set ourselves utopian goals. The entire history of the Soviet Union shows that Soviet people have developed many new qualities, new character traits. Indeed, a new Soviet character. If this were not so we would not have advanced as far as we have.

But, not all the problems have yet been solved. We have still to rid ourselves of certain negative features inherited from the old world. Certain difficulties are engendered by the alien social system on our doorstep. Some of the problems are the result of our own mistakes or shortcomings. But the problems we have solved have been solved once and for all. This is itself shows that man is capable of unlimited self-improvement -- given, of course, the appropriate conditions, social conditions above all. Such conditions we have. But they must be improved in depth as is provided for by the draft documents of the 27th CPSU Congress. This calls for purposeful and conscious efforts on the part of society, and it is ready, on the whole, to make such efforts. In fact, it is already doing so with great enthusiasm.

The year 1985 saw a wealth of promising new developments in this respect which are to be continued and augmented in 1986. For us 1986 must be both a year of peace and a year of accelerated progress, a year that will inspire man to still more vigorous activity, to further creative and moral progress. A factor conducive to optimism is that our attitude to the coming year as a special one is shared by our friends, the peoples of the other socialist countries.

The outgoing year has laid a solid and reliable foundation for what is to come. This has been the year of the prolongation of the Warsaw Treaty which guarantees our security. It has been the year of the fruitful Sofia session of the Political Consultative Committee of the treaty's member-states where the programme for joint action in the international arena -- action for peace and progress -- has been approved. It has been the year of the extraordinary 41st session of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance which adopted the comprehensive programme for the participating states' scientific and technological progress over the period of up to 2000. It has been the year of marked headway in relations amongst all the socialist countries.

Our enemies dream of abolishing socialism, reversing the course of history and pushing mankind back into the pre-socialist era. Hence their unceasing complaints about a divided Europe, that is, the choosing of socialism by Central and East European countries. Hence the persistent attempts to encroach on the territorial integrity of the socialist countries, ranging from revanchist sallies on the Rhine to the American policy of "two Chinas." Hence the continued accusations, false through and through, to "encouraging terrorism," levelled against socialist countries. Unable to contain himself, the U.S. Secretary of State banged his fist on the table when told in Belgrade that the peoples' fight for freedom and their resistance to the attempts at exporting counterrevolution could not be identified with terrorism. Hence the efforts to disunite the socialist countries either by promises of some kind of "benefits" (the object being to get one or another state under dollar control), or by classifying them into "better," "worse," "more independent" and "less independent" countries.

All this has been given a worthy rebuff over the past months. Each socialist state retains its own identity. Each has its own interests and is able to uphold them. But they also have common interests, a common destiny, common plans and a common future. They uphold their common international interests just as they do their individual national interests. This was manifested at the meetings of the leaders of the fraternal countries in Sofia and Prague; at the 41st (extraordinary) CEMA session; at the Bucharest conference of the secretaries of the central committees of the communist parties of 11 fraternal countries held on the eve of the New Year. The unity and interlinking of the national and the international is the guarantee of the socialist progress of peoples representing almost a third of mankind.

We are certain that the year 1986 will indeed be a special one from the standpoint of the development of world socialism. The socialist countries will apply themselves to the fulfillment of their new five-year plans and their common, collective programme of scientific and technological progress. These plans are geared to the needs of the 21st century. Fulfilling them will of course be far from easy. We are bound to encounter the problems involved in blazing new trails. We shall have to master not only new technology, but also new methods of work, joint work included. We shall have to change certain attitudes and overcome certain old habits. And while doing so we shall have to continue our effort for peace and a secure future for the peoples. In this difficult and strenuous endeavour the peoples of our countries will have, as always, the fraternal support of the working people, and above all the proletariat of the non-socialist world. For their part the socialist nations will go on supporting their class brothers abroad.

In this respect, too, 1986 will be a special year. After all, the coming year will mark the 100th anniversary of the American proletarians' famous Chicago strike which, though ruthlessly suppressed by the authorities, gave rise to a mighty wave of internationalist solidarity. It was from the Chicago struggle and acts of solidarity with it that May Day, the day of the international solidarity of the working people, emerged.

We are confident that 1986 will also see the further strengthening of working people's internationalism worldwide, and their interaction in the fight for freedom, human rights, and above all their No 1 right -- the right to life. Socialism holds aloft the banner of this struggle. People usually wish each other success and happiness for the New Year. While adhering to this tradition, we realize, to a greater extent than ever before, that what the coming year will bring depends on all of us. Therefore, let us work together so that it may really bring us success and happiness, and, of course, a more stable and reliable peace!

UN DIPLOMATS' PROTEST AT RESTRICTIONS REPORTED

PM101103 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 1

[TASS report: "United Nations: Diplomats' Protest"]

[Text] New York, 9 Jan -- The permanent UN missions of the GDR, Bulgaria, Poland, and Czechoslovakia have sent UN Secretary General J. Perez de Cuellar a letter drawing attention to the United States' new violations of its commitments as the host country to the UN Headquarters and the foreign missions accredited to it.

Since 6 January the Washington authorities have introduced restrictions on the movement of diplomats from these socialist countries on U.S. territory.

Resolutely protesting this U.S. action, the missions of the GDR, Bulgaria, Poland, and the CSSR have pointed out that these actions contradict the principles of international law and the UN Charter, in particular Article 105 of the charter which states that the employees of missions and workers of the UN Secretariat enjoy on the territory of the country where the UN headquarters are situated, the privileges and immunity which are necessary for the fullfillment of their duties. The provocative and legally unfounded nature of the U.S. authorities' actions are all the more obvious in that in these countries the employees of all foreign embassies, including the U.S. Embassy, enjoy all diplomatic privileges, including unrestricted movement, the letter says.

The new hostile actions followed the United States' recent attempt to complicate the work of the authoritative international institution, when the U.S. Administration introduced restrictions on movement for employees of the UN Sectetariat, including citizens of Vietnam, Cuba, and other countries. UN circles note that all these acts of provocation were the result of the purposeful antisocialist campaign the United States is conducting.

U.S. CONTINUES TO THREATEN LIBYA WITH MILITARY ACTION

Reagan Expresses Irritation

LD112110 Moscow TASS in English 2105 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 11 TASS -- President Reagan expressed irritation over the refusal of the United States' European allies in NATO to join in Washington's economic sanctions against Libya. In an interview to five biggest West European newspapers, the President actually urged Europeans to join in the United States policy, making a reference to an alleged "moral" necessity for staging wide actions against Libya.

U.S. Ships Concentrate Near Libya

LD140758 Moscow TASS in English 0744 GMT 14 Jan 86

["U.S. Ships Moved to Libyan Shores" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington, January 14 TASS -- A six-ship U.S. naval task force led by the aircraft-carrier Saratoga is being rushed from the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean, UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL reported, quoting Pentagon sources.

Another American aircraft-carrier, the Coral Sea, is already in the Mediterranean, cruising off Libyan shores.

The provocative concentration of U.S. warships near the coast of Libya is part of the Washington administration's plan to bring pressure to bear on that country.

Military Plans Detailed

LD102131 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Under the false pretext of the fight against terrorism the United States is hatching plans for the direct use of military force against a number of sovereign states in the Near and Middle East. As THE WASHINGTON POST writes: Libya, Syria, Iran, and the Al-Biqa' valley in Lebanon figure in the Pentagon's plans as possible targets for inflicting a strike.

Future Armed Aggression Planned

LD131158 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 13 TASS -- The purpose behind the slanderous and provocative campaign, mounted by the Reagan administration against Libya, is to set the stage for overthrowing the legitimate government of that country, the NEWSWEEK journal writes. The weekly has learnt from the classified information which fell into its possession that the National Security Council drafted a plan to destabilize economic and political life in Libya and perpetrate direct armed intervention. According to the designs by White House strategists, the armed aggression is to be committed in the next six to nine months.

New Threats Against Libya

LD132109 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Jan 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpt] Washington -- U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and Secretary of State Shultz have made new threats against Libya. In an ABC interview the head of the Pentagon stated that the United States was ready to go further than diplomatic and economic measures in relation to Libya and to take tougher measures. Speaking on a CBS television program, Secretary of State Shultz, in reply to a question on whether possible U.S. military actions would undermine the peace process in the Near East, stated: I consider that by suppressing Al-Qadhdhafi and Libya's support for terrorism we are increasing and not reducing the chances of achieving peace. However, Shultz was not able to add any proof of Libya's complicity in terrorism.

U.S. Logic Disputed

LD132154 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 13 Jan 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Text] Hello comrades! It is again necessary to begin with an old subject. In the United States the anti-Libyan campaign is not abating. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger and Secretary of State Shultz have made new threats against this sovereign Arab country which Washington accuses of complicity in terrorism. The Pentagon chief termed the U.S. economic aggression against Libya -- which is being implemented in open violation of the UN Charter -- as legitimate. Weinberger also stated that the United States is ready to go further than diplomatic and economic measures with regard to Libya and to take more severe measures. That is, in other words, military actions.

In his turn Shultz, answering a question as to whether possible military actions by the United States against Libya might undermine the peace process in the Near East, stated: I think that in crushing Al-Qadhdhafi and the terrorism supported by Libya, we are increasing and not lowering the chances of achieving peace. The Libyans, Shultz stressed, must either stop what they are doing or get out of the way. At the same time, the secretary of state said the United States will continue with its efforts to persuade its West European allies to join the economic sanctions against Libya. For this reason Whitehead, the deputy secretary of state, is going to Europe -- to try to gain support for Washington's measures from the allies.

In connection with this I would like to cite for you the exemplary logic of persuasion which U.S. propaganda is resorting to these days. The ship Achille Lauro seized by terrorists was European, they say; most of the tourists on board were Europeans and not Americans; Vienna and Rome are the capitals of European states and in the terrorist acts there more Europeans died than citizens of the United States; and you, they say, do not join the sanctions announced by President Reagan. All of this is correct, of course, from the point of view of geography; everyone knows perfectly well where Europe is and where the United States is. And the careful count of the victims from various continents has also been precisely carried out. In the logical constructions of the propagandists over the ocean just one main link has fallen out. This is that Libya has no connection whatever with the criminal actions of the terrorists. Both the Italian and the Austrian authorities, for example, say the terrorists responsible for the attacks at these airports had been trained on Lebanese territory and there is no evidence indicating Libya's complicity in these acts.

But representatives of the State Department insist there is more than enough such evidence, although they, of course, do not cite any specific facts.

Meanwhile, the U.S. National Security Council has worked out a plan for the destabilization of the political and economic situation in Libya and for carrying out direct military intervention. A program of sabotage has been outlined to undermine Libya's position on the world oil market. The CIA has been given the task of implementing measures for undermining the internal political situation in the country, discrediting its lawful government, and creating some sort of political opposition in Libya itself and abroad. According to the scheme of the White House strategists, armed aggression is to be carried out in the course of the next 6 to 9 months.

U.S. Pursuing 'Adventurist Course'

LD101631 Moscow TASS in English 1558 GMT 10 Jan 86

["Isn't It Time To Take a More Sober View?" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Boris Shabayev:

The United States is working to aggravate tensions in the Mediterranean to the accompaniment of the booming propaganda rhetoric about "combatting terrorism". Having announced economic sanctions against Libya and continuing to threaten it with the use of military force, the White House is out to do something habitual: to twist the arms of its allies. John Whitehead, U.S. deputy secretary of state, is to go to Western Europe with the demand that it join in the anti-Libyan sanctions. There even was some talk in Washington about clamping sanctions on the allies if they refuse to submit to the American dictate.

Threats of direct intervention right down to the use of force are made in Washington not only against Libya but other Arab countries as well. Exactly these days the Heritage Foundation, the brain trust of the American conservatives -- and the present administration as a rule willingly heeds its recommendations -- came up with a wide-scale program for toppling the Syrian Government. A report prepared by that organization says in no uncertain terms that Washington should rely on the "stick" to stimulate the coming to power in Syria of a regime that suits it.

Washington reacted without delay to the "signal" served in this manner -- a high-ranking official listed Syria as one of the countries against which sanctions might be applied next.

This is the practical side of the philosophy and politics of "new globalism" which underlies Washington's arbitrary attempts to sit in judgment on the international scene and mete out punishment to inobedient governments and countries that do not suit it.

Washington is yet another time trying to motivate its irresponsible and extremely dangerous actions by saying that Libya, Syria and other Arab countries pose "a threat to the national security of the U.S." However, American citizens staying in Libya at the present time take a different view of the situation. One American told a correspondent of THE NEW YORK TIMES the threat was coming from the American Government, not from the Libyans. He added that he did not want to come under an air bombing during a U.S. armed attack. The present crisis exists only in Ronald Reagan's brain, another American said.

Quite sober views. And, one must say, they are shared by the majority of countries and peoples, including U.S. allies who unequivocally demonstrate their disagreement with Washington's adventurist course.

Nations will never accept the concept of "curtailed sovereignty" and will not adjust their freedom and independence to the arbitrary interpretation of "the U.S. security interests."

At the turn of the century the classic of American and world literature Mark Twain urged Washington to take a more sober view around and ponder a little.

One can only regret that those who are in control in America now do not make much of this outstanding author.

'Circumstantial Evidence' Cited

LD101142 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Americans living in Libya reacted with a mixture of anger and resignation to President Reagan's order that they leave the country by February. Here are some details:

The majority of Americans in Libya work for oil companies such as Mobil, Occidental, and others. According to Richard Beeson, the British vice-consul there, there is no realistic evidence to suggest there has been any personal risk for foreign nationals. He added that Libyans are very courteous to foreigners. The reasons for the President's order to leave were highlighted in a sample of opinions by Americans who insisted on not being named for fear of reprisals back home. Here are some of their views:

A Mobil oil official said I am safe and I am happy here. This crisis is in Ronald Reagan's mind. Another oil company executive said I will probably leave now for security reasons, but the threat is coming from my own government, not from the Libyans. I don't want to be bombed in an American military attack here.

As is often the case with Washington's political campaigns against other countries, it is difficult to keep track of who says what and why. In the absence of smoking gun evidence against Cuba, [as heard] as one administration official put it, there is circumstantial evidence. But when White House officials are pressed for any kind of evidence they mumble something about strong suspicions, a likelihood and so on.

To get nearer to the truth, let's go back to that view of the American who said he did not want to be bombed in an American military attack on Libya. He knows what he's talking about. A little over 2 years ago, under the pretext of saving American medical students from being taken hostage in Grenada, the White House ordered an invasion of the tiny island. At that time, the American Administration cited the participation of several Caribbean countries as evidence of Grenada's threat to them and of regional unity. This time attempts to drag America's allies into an anti-Libyan campaign have failed and in the absence of a united international front, Washington is trying to build a semblance of domestic unity.

In 1983, the United States demonstrated its iron fist by invading a little country. This time is would like to take on a bigger nation, to show the world that its gunboat diplomacy, known as neoglobalism, is more than a doctrine and the American people are invited to support it and take the consequences of a possible military confrontation that would certainly dwarf the loss of life in Grenada and Lebanon many times. Some time ago Libya was big in the news in the United States, when virtually all over the nation there was a hunt for so-called Libyan hit squads. At the time, there was a lot of circumstantial evidence that those squads had penetrated the country. That evidence was nonsense, but there they go again with their circumstantial evidence.

U.S. ACTIONS MOTIVATED BY 'IMPERIALIST CUPIDITY'

LD101443 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 10 Jan 86

[From the "Time, Events, People" program, with commentary by political observer Nikolay Shishlin]

[Text] Reports by the mass information media testify that the United States is continuing to conduct an aggressive course against Libya. Washington has announced the introduction of a whole range of discriminatory economic measures against that Arab country. U.S. policy is sharply aggravating the Near East situation where already more than enough explosive material exists. Washington's course is directed at deepening the regional conflict, although the U.S. Administration is not averse to expatiating on its aspiration to contribute to the settlement of such conflicts. But, in fact, U.S. policy is maintaining and aggravating regional conflicts. Political observer Nikolay Shislin outlines its reasons:

Naturally, regional conflicts will occupy an important position in international relations in 1986 and January indicates this quite clearly. If you think about how regional conflicts are supported, the classic answer -- the definitive answer to a certain extent -- will probably be that these conflicts themselves are the product of internal contradictions within the development of particular states or of the difference between ethnic groups which are inherited from the colonial past. This answer is correct in general. For example, if we look at what is now happening in southern Africa -- there is, of course, a whole mass of contradictions there -- but the fundamental contradiction is the situation of the huge majority of the Republic of South Africa's population which is deprived of its rights and subject to the authorities' arbitrariness. We can see contradictions between the aggressor -- the state of Israel -- and its Arab neighbors in the Near East. Naturally, we are dealing with those differences between ethnic groups and between states engendered by imperialist arbitrariness.

This definitive answer to the nature of regional conflicts is incomplete to some extent, because, regional conflicts in themselves would not be capable of acquiring their present scale were it not for imperialist interference, above all U.S. interference, in the internal affairs of states. This is the first thing. The United States incorrectly evaluates the nature of conflicts, and interprets them in such a way that its hands are untied for aggressive actions in relation to particular areas, states, and national liberation movements. This is not simply the fruit of some type of theoretical ignorance; rather, the United States is motivated in this by the most elementary imperialist cupidity. The present U.S. Administration's very treatment of regional conflicts is nothing more than ideological safeguarding of further acts of force to arrange and rearrange everything in its own way, wherever these critical events are unfolding.

The second mistake the United States is making is also of a strategic nature; namely, that it is attempting to wipe out the lessons of its Vietnam adventure and, as they themselves say, overcome the Vietnam syndrome by formulating a new doctrine of low-intensity conflicts which, in their schemes, untie the present U.S. Administration's hands as well as subsequent administrations to once again use either direct or indirect military force to forcibly alter the course of events in a direction advantageous for imperialism.

The United States' third strategic mistake with regard to conflict situations -- it appears that it does not wish to understand that the course of social development, be it a country in isolation, be it on the scale of a continent, or be it on the scale of the whole world -- is that such a course cannot be stopped by any forceful methods in the final analysis.

It is indisputable. Imperialism may win individual battles, but the times of colonial empires cannot be revived irrespective of whether the colonial empire is in old wrapping or in new wrapping. It is for this reason that the task in 1986 is quite clear. It is essential within the framework of the resolution of the problems of war and peace to seek a political settlement of situations of dispute, to seek the political settlement of regional conflicts. A fairly simple foundation for this definitely exists; specifically, to prevent interference in the internal affairs of states and to strictly respect the right of peoples to choose their path to the future for themselves.

DELTA UNIT'S RELOCATION TO SICILY REPORTED

LD131555 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 13 TASS -- TASS commentator Lev Aksenov writes:

The NATO base of Sigonella on Sicily Island is to become a base facility for the U.S. special "counter-terrorist" unit "Delta". Reporting this, the West German "DER SPIEGEL" magazine points out that expert opinion is that permanent presence of "Delta" in Sicily will enable the unit to be as close as possible to the Middle East area. As is known, at present this special unit is based on Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The report in "DER SPIEGEL" magazine lifts the veil over one of the causes of the rabid uproar raised by Washington in recent days around the question of "fighting international terrorism". The U.S. Administration, under the cover of high-sounding declarations about the "need to overcome the evil", is using every opportunity to build up its military presence in vitally important regions of the world. And although Washington is now laying emphasis on the malicious anti-Libyan campaign, the stationing of "Delta" personnel directly poses in point of fact a real threat to all countries of the area, including European ones. The NATO-elaborated plans for "solving internal crises" in Italy, Greece, and Cyprus come to mind in this connection. The Greeks, for example, had to pay for NATO's "care" with seven long years of life under the yoke of the fascist dictatorship of the "black colonels". A programme of action of the new occupants of Sigonella will include, in particular, the conduct of "operations" similar to the one which was recently carried out in connection with the events around the seizure of the "Achille Lauro" cruise liner when the Americans most shamelessly violated the sovereignty of the Italian republic. With the transfer of "Delta" from the American continent to Europe, the danger of Washington's policy of overt terrorism becomes still more perceptible to the peoples of Mediterranean countries.

U.S. BAN ON SCIENTIFIC TV PROGRAM CRITICIZED

Chazov's Letter Cited

LD101758 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- "The U.S. State Department's decision to prohibit a scientific discussion by Soviet and U.S. medical scientists from being shown on American television has caused surprise, disappointment and certain indignation," Academician Yevgeniy Chazov, director of the All-Union Cardiological Research Center of the Academy of Medical Sciences of the USSR, said in a letter to Arthur Hartman, U.S. ambassador to the USSR.

The prominent Soviet heart doctor wrote that the Soviet scientists have welcomed the understanding to broaden cooperation between Soviet and American scientists in the field of medicine, which was reached during the Geneva meeting of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. After expressing gratitude in his letter to U.S. Embassy staffers for their help arranging a satellite linkup conference by Soviet and American cardiologists, Chazov said the ban imposed by the U.S. State Department has made one doubt the sincerity of statements by official spokesmen for the U.S. Government about a desire for broader cooperation among American and Soviet scientists.

Scientists' Telegram

LD101724 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- A group of leading Soviet medical scientists have sent a telegram to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, expressing surprise and deep disappointment with a decision by the U.S. State Department to ban broadcasting on U.S. television of a conference of U.S. and Soviet cardiologists. The conference, which was held late last year via the Moscow-Washington space bridge, enabled many leading specialists from both countries to discuss the present-day state of the problems of preventive and other treatment of ischemic heart diseases and has made an appreciable contribution to the study of cardiac diseases, the telegram says.

The Moscow-Washington space bridge has become, among other things, a sign holding out hope that Soviet-U.S. cooperation in medicine will be carried forward, the telegram points out. The Soviet medical men see in this cooperation a real embodiment of the Geneva spirit, one of the specific results of the accord reached on broadening exchanges and contacts, including some of their new forms, in medicine. We do not understand the motives which guided U.S. officials who imposed a virtual ban on the accessible and prompt familiarization of doctors, specializing in the treatment of cardiac diseases, and the broad public with the materials of the scientific conference of Soviet and U.S. cardiologists. The authors of the telegram are of the opinion that this action is aimed against Soviet-U.S. cooperation and reflects opposition by certain quarters to the process leading to more intensive contacts between the United States and the Soviet Union.

In conclusion the telegram expresses hope that hurdles will not be put up in the way of the pooling of efforts by Soviet and U.S. medical scientists for humane purposes of preserving life and health of people. The telegram was signed by academicians and corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences Nikolay Blokhin, Natalya Bekhtereva, Vladimir Burakovskiy, Sergey Debov, Leonid Ilin, Mikhail Karsnov, Mikhail Kuzin, Vladimir Negovskiy, Sergey Severin, Nikolay Trapeznikov, Svyatoslav Fedorov and Valeriy Shumakov.

WRITERS UNION HEAD'S REPLY TO INVITATION CITED

LD131819 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1621 GMT 13 Jan 86

["Letter from Georgiy Markov to Norman Mailer" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Jan (TASS) -- Georgiy Markov, first secretary of the Board of the USSR Union of Writers has thanked Norman Mailer for the invitation to the International Congress of the Pen Club, which was sent to the Soviet Writers' Union.

"We would be willing to accept it," the letter says, "were it not for one circumstance that has the importance of principle as far as we are concerned."

"As is clear from the list you have sent, among those who have been invited to the congress as guests of honor are individuals (including former Soviet citizens) whose activity for a number of years has been directed at kindling hatred and enmity between the peoples. It is for precisely this reason that their participation in the congress cannot and will not, we are sure, encourage the creation of a creative and constructive atmosphere.

Of course, this position on our part does not mean that we are opposed to setting different viewpoints alongside each other, no matter how sharp they might be," says the letter from the first secretary of the board of the USSR Union of Writers.

Georgiy Markov points out in the letter that "Ultimately the activity of the above-mentioned persons is directed against the desire shared by all mankind for peace and mutual understanding between the peoples in general and between writers in particular. Agreement on our part to accept your kind invitation would in any event mean our finding ourselves in a single rank with these people who advocate hatred both toward our people and to the peoples of the countries from which they come."

"The USSR Union of Writers," the letter says, "is now undertaking efforts directed at making our contacts with U.S. writers more active and wider. We want our mutually-beneficial links and creative discussions to promote a better understanding and good relations between the peoples and the literatures of our countries."

REAGAN RECEIVES JAPANESE FOREIGN MINISTER

LD102046 Moscow TASS in English 2031 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 10 TASS -- U.S. President Ronald Reagan today had a meeting at the White House with Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe. The agenda was not announced but according to informed observers the sides concentrated on the expansion of military and political cooperation between America and Japan. The Americans hope during the visit to secure Tokyo's official consent to a role in the "star wars" programs. Japan is so far limiting itself to expressing an "understanding" of the goals of that program, under which a major partially space-based ABM system is being developed.

CHINESE EXPERTS VISIT SIBERIAN COAL MINE

OW111412 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] A group of Chinese experts visited a large opencut coal mine in Siberia, which has an annual output of 25 million metric tons. (Pan Dacheng), head of the group, said that the coal mine is well organized and should serve as a model for new Chinese opencut mines. Existing Chinese opencut coal mines were designed by U.S. and West German experts. (Pan Dacheng) said: The visit has led us to believe that China should use Soviet experience and technology.

GRAIN SHORTFALL BLAMED ON PRICES, CROP SWITCH

PM131955 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 12 Jan 86 p 3

[TASS report: "The Chinese Press on Grain Production"]

[Text] Beijing, 11 January -- According to reports by the XINHUA agency, a recent conference in Beijing convened by the PRC Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, and Fishery noted that, for the first time in 7 years, last year saw a drop in the country's grain production. According to preliminary data, the grain harvest in 1985 will total 380 million metric tons, which is 27 million metric tons less than in 1984.

Commenting on the results of this conference, the Chinese press points out that some damage was caused to grain crop cultivation by natural disasters -- floods, drought, and also the spread of various pests and plant diseases. At the same time, in the opinion of the conference participants, the main cause of the total grain harvest reduction is the reduction in the area sown to grain crops, which is connected with structural changes in agricultural production. Over the past year this area has been reduced by 4.38 million hectares. This has happened as a result of the introduction of the family or household contract in rural areas. Peasants have taken advantage of the economic independence granted them and have expanded the area that is cultivating more profitable crops to the detriment of grain production.

Among other causes cited were the still comparatively low purchase prices for grain and the rise in the price of fertilizers and agricultural equipment. In Hunan and Jiangsu Provinces, for example, during 1985 the production costs of peasant farms engaged in the sphere of grain production increased by 20-30 percent in comparison to 1984. In Sichuan Province the income of peasants cultivating grain crops was 50-80 percent lower than that of peasants engaged in handicraft and industrial production, private trade, and freight transportation.

CHINESE FEATURE FILM SHOWN IN MOSCOW

OW111111 Moscow in Mandarin to China 1600 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] The Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association sponsored an evening party at the House for Friendship with the People of All Countries in Moscow on 10 January to show "A Girl Named Ming," a Chinese feature film provided by the Chinese Embassy in the Soviet Union. Watching the film were members of the Central Council of the Soviet-Chinese Friendship Association, sinologists, college students majoring in Orientalism, and people from all walks of life.

SHEVARDNADZE'S VISIT TO JAPAN PREVIEWED

LD131725 Moscow TASS in English 1549 GMT 13 Jan 86

["Constructive Dialogue Between the USSR and Japan is Possible" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 13 TASS -- TASS commentator Igor Anatolyev writes: The forthcoming visit by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to Japan is being widely discussed by the mass media both in the country of the rising sun itself and elsewhere. There is nothing surprising in the fact. The upcoming Soviet-Japanese talks are an event important not only to the bilateral relationship of the two countries but also to international political affairs in general since, historical experience shows, the state of links between the USSR and Japan has always influenced the situation in Asia and the Pacific. The influence was positive in the period when relations between the two countries developed favorably. And the opposite was in evidence when they became complicated. This is how it was in the past.

But the observation is all the truer applied to nowadays, considering the fact that Japan has become one of the world's leading states as far as its economy is concerned and its international role has also grown.

There is yet another important circumstance which has riveted attention to the Soviet-Japanese dialogue. It is being held in a situation marked by a dramatically increased threat of a global nuclear conflict which needs the joint efforts of many states to prevent. Pooling the efforts of the USSR and Japan towards this goal would be of special significance since these are countries one of which suffered the heaviest damage in World War II, losing over 20 million of its citizens, while the other became the first and only victim of nuclear weapons. This circumstance, for its part, cannot but determine the community of interests of the Soviet and Japanese peoples in efforts to enhance peace and remove the threat of a nuclear disaster.

It is our conviction that this community of interests forms the basis on which the two countries can have a truly constructive dialogue. It is a quest for ways of lessening tension in the world in general and in Asia and the Pacific in particular rather than an emphasis on problems on which the sides differ or on any far-fetched issues that should become the content of this dialogue. Naturally enough, this requires continuing to act to improve the bilateral relationship, progressively advance it and cultivate a spirit of trust. The Soviet Union's readiness to apply efforts in this direction has been borne out by a whole number of constructive initiatives it has repeatedly addressed to Japan over recent years.

They include proposals for concluding a treaty on goodneighbourliness and cooperation, discussing confidence-building measures in the Far East, signing a treaty which would formalize Japan's non-nuclear status and the USSR's pledge not to use nuclear weapons against that country, and considering a comprehensive approach to ensuring security in Asia. In advance of the Soviet-Japanese talks it should be repeated once again that the Soviet Union is prepared to build relations with its Far Eastern neighbour in the principles of goodneighbourliness, trust and mutually beneficial cooperation and does not harbor any plans that would threaten the security of Japan. In the Soviet Union Japan's role on the international scene and its place in the world economy are taken into account and there is readiness to cooperate with it in efforts to ward off the threat of another world war, strengthen international security and ensure peace and security in Asia and the Pacific. So everything depends on the Japanese side.

DPRK SUSPENDS MANEUVERS DURING TALKS WITH ROK

LD111754 Moscow TASS in English 1306 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Pyongyang, January 11 TASS -- The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has decided not to hold any major military maneuvers from February 1, 1986, and during talks with South Korea to discontinue all military exercises altogether, the country's Foreign Ministry said in a statement here today. It said the decision is directed at easing tension in the Korean Peninsula and creating there an atmosphere conducive to dialogue between its north and south. Military maneuvers by any party to the dialogue, the statement explained, can only lead to higher mutual mistrust and greater war danger.

This was borne out last year when North-South talks were broken off for a long time as a result of the Team Spirit-85 exercises there. In this connection the statement called on the U.S. Government and the South Korean authorities to respond to this new initiative of the DPRK and follow its example. The statement expressed the hope that the governments and peoples of all peace-loving states will support the DPRK's proposals for removing the threat of war in Korea and promoting a successful dialogue between its north and south and help their realization.

'EXPLOSION' OF STUDENT UNREST IN S. KOREA

LD132352 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Commentary by political observer Vsevolod Ovchinnikov from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] Hello, comrades! South Korea is gripped by a new explosion of student unrest. The protests by the young people, and they are supported by all democratically oriented strata of the society, are directed not only against the Seoul regime, but also against its patrons in Washington. The rise in political passions is worrying the dictator Chon Tu-hwan. This year the country is due to be the host for the Asian games and he badly needs the illusion of stability. In an attempt to maneuver, Chon Tu-hwan recently carried out his 18th cabinet reshuffle, and more than half the ministers were dismissed. Thus, the reprisals against dissidents go hand in hand with the appearance of change. South Korea is putting on a show of demogogy about the historic mission of the United States as some kind of adherent of and fighter for democracy everywhere in the world.

The current dictator in Seoul, Chon Tu-hwan, stepped to power over the body of his predecessor and the bloody slaughter in Kwangju. About 3,000 participants in the people's uprising perished at the time at the hands of the punitive authorities. For 10 days they held the third-largest town of the country in their hands and the reprisals against them, with assistance from the U.S. military command, is as shameful a blot on the conscience of Washington's defenders of democracy as the bloody slaughter at Song My. Countermeasures against the communist threat in South Korea were more important than the restoration of democracy, as the then President Carter stated cynically, a great lover of advocating the protection of human rights. The head of the current administration is all the more disinclined to moralize excessively to Seoul. Your business is our business. This is the kind of message which the White House sends not only to the Afghan dushmans, the Nicaraguan contras and Pol Pot cutthroats. It is under this very slogan that Washington's fighters for human rights embrace punishers and dictators of the type of Chon Tu-hwan in South Korea, Pinochet in Chile and Botha in South Africa. This is what protection of freedom and democracy looks like in practice on a global scale.

IRANIAN DETENTION OF U.S. SHIP REPORTED

LD131156 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1125 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Excerpts] Nicosia, 13 Jan (TASS) -- According to reports by the IRNA agency (Iran), fighting has been continuing along the whole of the Iran-Iraq front. The agency also reported that yesterday, Iranian naval vessels detained the U.S. merchant vessel "President Tyler" in the Gulf of Oman on the suspicion that it was carrying cargo for Iraq. After a 2-hour examination, the vessel was allowed to carry on its journey to a port in the United Arab Emirates.

/Washington, 13 Jan (TASS) -- The United States is inflating the incident over the detaining of a U.S. vessel in order to whip up further tension in the region. A White House spokesman said that the incident "warrants serious examination" according to a report by the ABC Television Company. The Pentagon has ordered two warships from the U.S. squadron in the Indian Ocean to make their way to the Persian Gulf.

20 SOVIET SOLDIERS REPORTEDLY EXECUTED IN DRA

AU140922 Vienna ORF Teletext in German 0911 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul/Islamabad -- According to Western diplomats in Islamabad, 20 Soviet soldiers were executed last month in Afghanistan. The soldiers of the Red Army allegedly refused to fight the Muslim rebels together with Afghan Government soldiers. The Western diplomats also reported that about 650 Afghan Government soldiers defected to the rebels.

IZVESTIYA ON SERVICEMAN'S EXPERIENCES IN DRA

PM091529 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 January 1986 Morning Edition carries under the rubric "The Life of the Soviet Armed Forces" a 2,000-word report by special correspondent N. Sautin headed "Soldiers of the Sea" and date-lined "The Red Banner Pacific Fleet." Sautin describes the time he spent with battalion commander V. Bityutskiy observing the training of the marines, noting in particular a training session in hand-to-hand fighting. He outlines the history of the marines and the special demands made on them, and goes on to give the following portrait of one member of Bityutskiy's battalion:

"Warrant officer Arkadiy Zagumenov of the regular service is 25 years old. Fate has repeatedly tested his strength. An orphan, he grew up in Udmurtia, in a children's home. At the age of 10 he asked to join the boxing section. The trainer refused him: Too many wanted to join. But then he "took pity on him": if you last for a month, I'll take you. And he sent him to train with older boys. He stood the test. When the time came for him to be drafted, he presented a certificate from the Dinamo sports society at the enlistment office. Three first grades, candidate master of sport in unarmed combat, judo, and boxing. Where does he want to serve? Only in the marines. But he found himself in the airborne landing troops. His subunit was sent to the DRA. One day... But let him tell his own story:

"We were helping Afghan Army servicemen to evacuate the wounded from a settlement which had been attacked by dushmans. Children, old men, and women were carried from the burning houses. The bandits had killed the men, or driven them away. It was terrible to see the inhabitants: The counterrevolutionaries had ended up by firing on the village from large-caliber machineguns and mortars. Running past one building, I hear a groan. Breaking down the door, which was wedged shut from inside, I saw a girl in a pool of blood. Bending down to lift her, I felt someone's eyes on me.

"I whipped round: a large bandit with a dagger was flinging himself at me. I managed to bring up the butt of my submachinegun. I deflected the blow, but the blade ripped my hand open. I felled the dushman. As he fell -- evidently it was all the same to him who he attacked -- he tried to stab the groaning Afghan girl with the dagger. But he did not succeed..."

"Have you counted up how many such one-to-one clashes you had?"

"Why count? You don't forget them. There were 22... But you could not count how many civilians our subunit saved. Thousands..."

Zagumenov did not serve out his term. A bullet wound in the knee and contusions from a mine which exploded close to him required hospitalization. He went back to Udmurtia. In the enlistment office, they advised him: Go to the militia school to train the students. By day he taught the militiamen, the evenings he spent with the children at his own children's home. But at night, just like 3 years ago, he dreamed of the marines. He sent a report to the defense minister. Waiting for a reply, he prepared himself for the medical commission. They summoned him: Would he agree to go to the Pacific fleet?

"In the political section, studying his personal case, they expressed surprise: a story like that, and no awards? Zagumenov admitted he had been recommended for an award, but obviously they had found worthier people. The general personally inquired at the Defense Ministry Main Personnel Directorate. The answer came back: An order of the Red Star is looking for reserve sergeant Zagumenov..."

The remainder of the article is devoted to Sautin's observations on a training exercise which he observed.

AFGHAN REBELS' PROPAGANDA PLANS DECRIED

LD100616 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] According to a WASHINGTON POST report, training will start this year under the auspices of USIA of propaganda cadres from the ranks of counterrevolutionaries who, as members of bandit gangs, wage undeclared war against Afghanistan. Our commentator Vladimir Beloshapko is at the microphone:

THE WASHINGTON POST, a paper known to be close to the White House, has reported that terrorists now turned propagandists are to prepare a series of television films about Afghanistan to be shown in the United States, West Europe, and also in Pakistan and Japan. What will these films be about? I doubt whether the viewer will learn from them about the details of that vast assistance with weapons, equipment, and ammunition which is channelled via the CIA to bandits. One can hardly reckon that the films will show brutality of bandits in Afghanistan, the mosques and schools destroyed by them, or the death of innocent Afghan people. It is even less probable that they will include clips about present day life in the Democratic Republic or about its obvious achievements. The ex-killers and attackers in Washington have not aimed at this. Their task is to convince the consumers that they are supposedly fighters for freedom and democracy, to blacken the people's government in Afghanistan, and thus justify the direct Washington involvement in the armed interference in affairs of this country.

Not a new task, as you can see: This has been the aim of the anti-Afghan propaganda machine which for several years has been bombarding the world public with heaps of lies and slander about Afghanistan.

Nevertheless the new ideological subversion is remarkable in many respects: remarkable above all because it indirectly proves the serious failures of U.S. propaganda which is trying in vain to prove that the United States and its assistants from the ranks of Afghan counterrevolutionaries are engaged in a just cause in Afghanistan, that Washington would like in fact a political settlement of the problem connected with this country. Do they think that the activity of former bandits in the sphere of propaganda can help this? It is not accidental, that even Ernie Shultz, the vice president of the Association of Directors of News Departments of Radio and Television Companies of the United States believes that the result of this venture will be met with a great deal of skepticism.

DRA'S KARMAL RECEIVES SOVIET DELEGATION

PM131657 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Friendship and Solidarity"]

[Text] Kabul, 12 Jan -- B. Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Revolutionary Council, has received a delegation from the Soviet Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries headed by A.S. Dzasokhov, first deputy chairman of the Committee, here.

During the meeting the Afghan leader ascribed measures aimed at expanding the social base of revolutionary power in the country and of the enlistment of representatives of ethnic groups, tribes, and various social strata to the implementation of the constructive tasks of the April Revolution. The DRA leader stated the Afghan people's firm support for the initiatives of the CPSU and Soviet state aimed at ending the nuclear arms race and normalizing the international atmosphere.

During its visit to the DRA the Soviet delegation had meetings and talks with leaders of the National Fatherland Front, the organization of peace, solidarity, and friendship, the tribes' consultative jirga, and other mass organizations in the country.

The delegation was also received by M. Barialay, member of the PRPA Central Committee, and DRA Foreign Minister S.M. Dost.

REPORTAGE ON TALYZIN VISIT TO SRV

Pham Van Dong Receives Talyzin

PM13117 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Meetings in Hanoi"]

[Text] Hanoi, 11 Jan -- On 10 January, Pham Van Dong, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, received the Soviet party and government delegation headed by N.V. Talyzin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR Gosplan, which is in Hanoi.

In the conversation that took place the Vietnamese leader noted that the Soviet delegation's presence at the ceremony marking the completion of the second stage of the damming of the Black River on which the Hoa Binh hydroproject is being built with the USSR's assistance was a vivid expression of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries. He thanked the CPSU and the USSR Government and people for the tremendous and effective assistance to the Vietnamese people in socialist building.

Head of the Soviet delegation N.V. Talyzin emphasized that the Soviet people would continue to do all they can to develop cooperation with, and assistance to, Vietnam and to expand this cooperation within the framework of Vietnam's Fourth 5-Year Plan (1986-1990).

Delegation Departs

BK131250 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1131 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK January 13 -- A Soviet Government delegation headed by Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee and first vice premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission of the USSR, left Phnom Penh Monday afternoon, ending its friendship visit to Kampuchea.

It was seen off at Pochentong Airport by Chea Soth, Politburo member of the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea Central Committee, vice premier and minister of planning; Kong Korm, first deputy foreign minister; Ros Chhun, and Ti Yav, respectively deputy ministers of planning and other officials.

Soviet Ambassador Yuriy I. Razdukhov and members of other diplomatic corps were also present on the occasion.

LPRP SECRETARY'S STATEMENT ON SOUTHEAST ASIA

BK131236 Moscow in Lao to Laos 1030 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Statement by Saman Vi-Gnaket, secretary of KPRP Central Committee; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Text] As is already known, the situation in Southeast Asia cannot be separated from the overall situation in the world. Asia in general, and Southeast Asia in particular, remains a place of tension -- a region of violent confrontation between the revolutionary forces on the one hand, and the imperialist and reactionary forces on the other. Thanks to the U.S. Administration's strategic defense policy in which it calls this area the region of the 21st century the United States, Japan, and South Korea have established a military triangle between the three countries, boosted the trend toward restoring Japanese militarism, and turned Japan into an unsinkable aircraft carrier. They have colluded with

the expansionists and hegemonists and other reactionaries to carry out activities opposing the Soviet Union and other socialist countries as wee as the national independence of various nations in this region, thus rendering the situation always tense. Nevertheless, thanks to their correct foreign policies the three Indochinese countries of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia have taken the initiative in the past 6 years to bring about positive changes to Southeast Asia for the interest of peace and stability. Despite the fact tht the expansionists have colluded with the imperialists and other reactionary forces and have stubbornly opposed the legitimate aspirations of various nations in Southeast Asia, they have failed to check the trend toward meetings and dialoge, because the people in Southeast Asia have daily come to understand that the dangers threatening them come from the expansionists and hegemonists and the imperialists and not from the three Indochinese countries. These three countries are actually victims of the wars of aggression initiated by the imperialists and the expansionists and hegemonists.

The LPDR, the SRV, and the PRK have made tireless efforts on as many as 11 occasions to advance constructive and reasonable initiatives to resolve conflicts in Southeast Asia. Each proposal constitutes an important contribution to gradually making the situation develop positively and to turning Southeast Asia into a zone of peace and stability. These proposals completely conform with statements issued by the Nonaligned Movement and with the current trend in the world.

In one proposal, the PRK and the SRV announced their joint decision to gradually withdraw Vietenamese volunteer troops each year and to withdraw all troops by 1990. The PRK has announced its readiness to hold talks with various groups and individuals of the opposite side to discuss the creation of national concord on the basis of eliminating the Pol Pot group and of organizing general elections following the withdrawal of Vietnamese volunteer forces from Cambodia. This constructive attitude has enjoyed broad support from various countries in Southeast Asia and throughout the world and is vigorously serving the boost the process of dialogue.

The LPDR as well as the three Indochinese countries is ready to sign an an agreement or treaty of peaceful coexistence with the PRC. The LPDR, as well as the three Indochinese countries, is ready to restore neighborly relations with Thailand and to turn the Lao-Thai border into a border of friendship and peace in accordance with the joint statements signed by the two countries in 1979. Nevertheless, the Thai side remains insincere in improving and normalizing bilattral relations. It has continued to collude with the expansionists and hegemonists to wage a multifaceted war of destruction against the LPDR.

Particularly, the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles announced at the 39th session [of the UN General Assembly] that they had already withdrawn their forces from three Lao villages in Sayaboury Province. But they have in fact not yet withdrawn all their troops and continue to occupy some points inside Lao territory.

Nevertheless, persisting in the principles of the Nonaligned Movement and the UN Charter, on 6 June 1985 the LPDR Government proposed to the government of the Kingdom of Thailand that the latter appoint a delegation to resume talks with a Lao delegation either in Bangkok or Vientiane in order to restore and improve friendly relations between the two countries, step up the implementation of the agreements signed by the two countries, improve bilateral economic, cultural, and trade relations, and to resolve other regional and international problems that may be raised by both sides. This good intention was once again affirmed in the LPDR foreign minister's letter dated 1 July 1985. Yet, the Thai side distorted this proposal by replying that local officials of the two countries should meet each other.

FURTHER ON VISIT BY YUGOSLAVIA'S RAIF DIZDAREVIC

TANJUG on 'Frankness' of Talks

LD102042 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1637 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow -- The Yugoslav-Soviet talks at the level of foreign ministers have ended. According to mutual assessment, these talks contributed to the development of cooperation between Yugoslavia and the USSR and confirmed the need for the practice of frequent high-level political contacts to exchange views on all topical bilateral and international issues of mutual interest.

On this occasion too, as both sides stressed, the talks were conducted in an atmosphere of friendship, cordiality, and frankness. Last night, in the Moscow Spiridonovka Villa, another agreement was signed that will enrich Yugoslav-Soviet cooperation in the domain of culture for the next 3 years.

Prior to this formal act, Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs, and his host Eduard Shevardnadze, analyzed the international situation and noted that it was difficult and complex and that it is essential for all countries to be actively involved with the aim of improving it. They also stressed the importance of the U.S.-Soviet meeting in Geneva and of all peaceful initiatives that seek to strengthen peace, security and cooperation in the world, and in this context they examined the proposals launched by the USSR and its leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

With regard to the process of relaxation of the existing tensions in the world, the Yugoslav side particularly emphasized the need of seeking agreement on the most vital world problems, such as the banning of all nuclear weapons testing and a ban on their use and transfer to space. In order for the process of relaxation of tension in the world, or rather the normalization of international relations, to acquire a lasting character, it was stressed that all countries should be involved in it because only in this way can detente become universal and free of political and geographical limitations.

In the view of the Yugoslav side this also presupposes a more rapid resolution of international economic problems and the removal of centers of crisis. This cannot be achieved without the active participation of the nations in these regions, while respecting their independence and sovereignty, and their inalienable right to decide for themselves their own destiny. This is one of the principles of the Nonaligned Movement, to which Yugoslavia belongs, and which gives full support to the course of strengthening universal detente on the basis of equality of political dialogue and all-around cooperation. As a stable and independent factor the Nonaligned Movement is irreplaceable. With regard to the problems of southeast Asia and southwest Asia, as is known, Yugoslavia and the USSR have different approaches, and these differences were not overcome on this occasion either.

The ministers exchanged views on the real prospects afforded by the talks in Vienna, Geneva and at the Stockholm forum of the CSCE. In connection with European security and cooperation, they stressed the constructive role which the neutral and nonaligned countries on the old continent play in this process.

Although in the foreign ministers' talks other differing viewpoints also came to the fore, arising out of the different internal paths of building socialism in the two countries and their different international positions, these differences did not hinder a frank discussion about them and are not a barrier to the further development of comprehensive relations between nonaligned Socialist Yugoslavia and the USSR. This was emphasized by both ministers on this occasion as well.

This was their third meeting in the past 6 months and this practice of frequent high-level contacts is continuing. The federal secretary of foreign affairs invited Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to visit Yugoslavia, and he accepted this invitation with pleasure.

Dizdarevic Departs 12 Jan

LD121344 Moscow TASS in English 1424 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 12 TASS -- Raif Dizdarevic, federal secretary for foreign affairs of Yugoslavia, has left Moscow today upon the completion of his official visit of friendship to the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

He was seen off at the airport by Eduard Shevardnadze, a member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, and other officials.

Statement on Talks

LD121555 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1419 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Press statement issued by Federal Foreign Secretary Raif Dizdarevic on talks held in USSR]

[Text] Moscow 12 Jan (TANJUG) -- I am very pleased with the results of the visit. We had extensive talks over sevefal hours with Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet presidium. In a friendly and open atmosphere of mutual respect we talked about both mutual relations and topical international issues.

Talks on bilateral relations focused on the further development of cooperation in all spheres, proceeding from the lasting principles of the Belgrade Declaration and the Moscow Statement. We also had a fruitful dialogue about international issues, primarily about efforts aimed at reducing tension in the world with the participation and for the benefit of all the countries of the world, particularly in view of the special responsibility of the USSR and the United States. This is due to the important influence that relations between these two countries have on relations in the world.

For our part we drew attention to the role of the Nonaligned Movement as an important independent factor in international relations.

Moscow Reports on Statement

LD131017 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] SFRY Federal Foreign Secretary Dizdarevic has made a statement in Belgrade expressing profound satisfaction with the results of his official friendly visit to the Soviet Union.

Relations between the two countries as well as topical international questions were examined at the Moscow talks with Soviet leaders, talks which were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, he said. The main attention was concentrated on further developing bilateral cooperation in all areas on the basis of the unalterable principles confirmed in the Belgrade Declaration and the Moscow Statement.

SHEVARDNADZE RECEIVES NEW POLISH AMBASSADOR

PM101133 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Reception of Ambassador"]

[Text] On 8 January E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, received W. Natorf, Polish ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR, in connection with the latter's forthcoming presentation of his credentials.

The talk took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

Envoy Presents Credentials

PM111838 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Polish Ambassador Presents Credentials"]

[Text] In the Kremlin on 9 January, A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Wlodzimierz Natorf, Polish ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, who presented his credentials.

The ambassador was accompanied by J. Brych, A. Przegonski, and W. Szymczak, ministers plenipotentiary and counsellors, and other embassy diplomats, who were presented to A.A. Gromyko by W. Natorf.

Present on the Soviet side were T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; V.P. Loginov, USSR deputy foreign minister; D.S. Nikiforov and V.V. Svirin, chiefs of USSR Foreign Ministry departments; S.A. Bondarenko, deputy chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet International Relations Department, and other officials.

When presenting his credentials, W. Natorf stressed that the alliance between Poland and the USSR is a fundamental factor guaranteeing Poland's security and the inviolability of its borders as well as peaceful conditions for socialist building. This alliance, the active promotion of the consolidation of the socialist community and the cause of progress and peace throughout the world, and the strengthening of alliance relations and all-around cooperation between Poland and the USSR are an imperative command of the time fulfilling the Polish people's vitally important interests.

The ambassador noted that the deepening of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation with the Land of the Soviets is the fundamental principle of the Polish Government's policy. Emphasis was laid on the importance of Polish-Soviet cooperation in the international arena, which actively serves the cause of ensuring our states' security and helps increase the socialist community's prestige.

The approaching 27th CPSU Congress, the ambassador said, will be an outstanding and historic event in the life of not only the Soviet people but all the socialist countries' fraternal parties. The Soviet Communists' supreme forum and the 10th PZPR Congress, which will be held this year, will exert a tremendous influence on the strengthening and development of Soviet-Polish relations.

Receiving the credentials, A.A. Gromyko stated: Remarkable events are taking place in the Soviet Union's life at present. Intensive work is underway in direct preparation for the 27th CPSU Congress.

Our party has adopted a course of accelerating Soviet society's economic and social development, combining it with the principled thrust of its foreign policy aimed at ending the arms race on earth, preventing it from spreading to space, and establishing lasting peace.

In its efforts to spare mankind from nuclear catastrophe the Soviet Union cooperates closely with the fraternal socialist countries. Our party's precongress documents stress that relations with the socialist states are a priority area of Soviet foreign policy.

A.A. Gromyko noted that the CPSU and the Soviet leadership pay great attention to questions of all-around cooperation between our peoples. We note with great satisfaction the fruitful development of Soviet-Polish relations, based on the unshakable principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism. The Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Poland is the firm foundation of Soviet-Polish ties.

The talks between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, and meetings between representatives of the Soviet and Polish leaderships are of determining significance for deepening the processes of integration between the USSR and Poland and for even greater cooperation between our fraternal parties.

The Soviet Union highly rates Poland's contribution to consolidating the unity of the socialist community countries and strengthening the Warsaw Pact and Poland's active stance in the struggle for European and international security.

In conclusion, A.A. Gromyko expressed confidence that W. Natorf, in his capacity as Polish ambassador to the USSR, will make his own active contribution to the noble task of further consolidating and developing the friendship and all-around cooperation between our countries and peoples.

After the presentation of the credentials A.A. Gromyko and W. Natorf held a warm, friendly conversation. T.N. Menteshashvili and V.P. Loginov took party.

PRAVDA CITES JARUZELSKI REMARKS TO PZPR VETERANS

PM081205 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conferring with Veterans"]

[Text] Warsaw, 7 Jan -- In the context of preparations for the 10th PZPR Congress W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council, has had a meeting with veterans of the Polish workers movement.

As a mark of appreciation of their great services to the PZPR and the Polish state the veterans were presented with medals instituted in memory of L. Barynski, prominent figure of the Polish workers movement.

W. Jaruzelski and the party veterans held a conversation, during which they discussed the tasks involved in the preparations for the 10th PZPR Congress and the further development and strengthening of the socialist state as well as topical international problems.

W. Jaruzelski spoke at the meeting, saying that the PZPR's historical experience in building socialism shows that the achievements on this path far outweigh all the false steps. Our immense strength, our political and moral superiority lie in the fact that we speak the truth and are capable of surmounting the obstacles and difficulties.

The Polish leader said that it was exceedingly important for the Polish people to carefully preserve the memory of the paths leading to the building of socialism on Polish soil and for past experience to serve a successful future. Polish communists have a big responsibility for ensuring that day-to-day practice confirms the correctness of our ideas. Communists must set an example in all things.

Concerning preparations for the 10th PZPR Congress, which is planned for this June, W. Jaruzelski stressed that the congress will have the exceedingly important job of adopting a new PZPR Program. It will be a program for the entire people, and it will be necessary to struggle actively to fulfill it. Party veterans have an important contribution to make to this struggle.

POLAND'S MESSNER CITED ON RESULTS OF GENEVA TALKS

LD140029 Moscow TASS in English 2221 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Warsaw, January 13 TASS -- The Soviet-American summit meeting in Geneva has convincingly demonstrated that the Soviet Union's consistent striving to safeguard peace produces results that are in line with the aspirations of the world public, writes Zbigniew Messner, a member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Polish People's Republic. In an article published in the December issue of the magazine NOWE DROGI, he stresses that the statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev after the meeting was permeated with a sense of responsibility for the future of humankind, for peaceful development of nations.

The Soviet Union and all other countries of the socialist community expect the American side to show a similar responsible approach to problems taken up in Geneva.

The summit meeting of the Warsaw Treaty member-states in Prague is evidence of the consistent striving of the countries of the socialist community to take all possible measures to safeguard international peace, Zbigniew Messner writes. He stresses that the importance of the Geneva meeting is in the lessening of the threat of nuclear war and in the relaxation of international tensions.

REPORTAGE ON ALBANIAN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Presidium Greetings

PM101621 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the Socialist People's Republic of Albania People's Assembly Presidium.

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of Albania's proclamation as a people's republic, we send the Albanian people cordial congratulations.

This important political enactment was a major milestone in the Albanian working people's struggle, under the leadership of their communist party, for the consolidation of the people's democratic system and socialist transformations in the country.

The Soviet Union wishes the Albanian people success and consistently adheres to the line of normalizing Soviet-Albanian relations. Given reciprocal good will, it would be possible to resolve this question in the interests of both states' peoples and of the cause of peace and socialism.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Anniversary Marked in Moscow

PM131131 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In Connection With Anniversary"]

[Text] Forty years ago, 11 January 1946, delegates to Albania's Constituent Assembly, expressing the will of the people, unanimously adopted the decision to abolish the monarchy and to proclaim the country a people's republic. A session of the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society's Central Board which was held in Moscow was devoted to this jubilee.

Speakers noted that the victory of the people's democratic revolution enabled the Albanian people to embark on the implementation of profound socioeconomic transformations and the building of socialism in their country.

The Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Albanian Friendship Society sent a greetings cable to the Albanian Committee for Cultural and Friendly Relations With Foreign Countries containing cordial congratulations to the Albanian working people in connection with this memorable event in their country's history and wishing them peace, prosperity, and further success on the path of socialist building.

IZVESTIYA on Anniversary

PM111636 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[G. Mitkevich article under the rubric "Pages From History": "Birth of a Republic"]

[Text] On 11 January the Albanian people celebrate a portentous anniversary. On that day 40 years ago the country's Constituent Assembly proclaimed Albania a people's republic. By that historic act the question of the form of state rule in the country was finally resolved and the monarchy was ended forever.

Albania's proclamation as a people's republic was not a simple formal act. It was achieved in the stubborn struggle which Albanian patriots waged for the country's democratization under the leadership of the Communist Party of Albania (now the Albanian Workers Party).

Despite the victory of the people's revolution, the situation in Albania at that time had not been fully stabilized. The reactionary forces had not been finally broken and were still having an influence on part of the population. In the hope of undermining the foundations of people's power the United States and Britain demanded a number of concessions from the Albanian Government as conditions for recognizing it.

In that complex situation the Soviet Union gave support to the Albanian working people. In November 1945, shortly before the elections to the Constituent Assembly, the Soviet Government recognized the Provisional Democratic Government of Albania and established diplomatic relations with it. That decision not only enhanced the prestige of the people's regime in the country but also created a serious obstacle to the intrigues of imperialist reaction against Albania. In the Constituent Assembly elections, the country's progressive forces united in the Democratic Front headed by the Communist Party of Albania won a convincing victory, securing more than 93 percent of the electorate's votes.

After Albania was proclaimed a people's republic, the implementation of fundamental socioeconomic transformations in the country was speeded up. The Fifth Communist Party of Albania Central Committee Plenum, held in February 1946, decided on an orientation toward the building of socialism in Albania. During 1946 industrial enterprises and mines were nationalized, wholesale trade passed entirely into the state's hands, further restrictions were introduced in private retail trade, producer and consumer cooperatives were also set up, and so forth. In agriculture the first peasant production cooperatives were organized, and state rural farms were formed. All those measures, along with the earlier nationalization of the banks, transport, and means of communication and the introduction of a monopoly in foreign trade, sharply reduced the sphere of activity for private capital in Albania and led to the formation of the socialist sector in the Albanian economy.

However, the building of the new life was complicated by the country's extreme backwardness. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries gave Albania great assistance in surmounting those difficulties. The selfless labor of Albanian workers and peasants, multiplied by all-around cooperation with the other fraternal countries, enabled Albania by the beginning of the sixties to resolve the important historic task of creating the economic base of socialism. A sound foundation was thereby laid for the country's further industrialization, the development of agriculture, and the raising of the Albanian working people's material and cultural living standards. It was emphasized at the Fourth Albanian Workers Party Congress in February 1961: "The Soviet Union's assistance and support was one of the most important external factors in our tremendous successes in socialist building."

The country's appearance has changed over the 40 years since Albania was proclaimed a people's republic. Multisector native industry has been created, which produces almost as much in 2 days as it produced during the whole of 1938. The country's working class has increased dozens of times. The forming of peasant farms into cooperatives was fully completed in 1967, and the socialist sector began producing all agricultural output, whose volume is now five times greater than the prewar level. Railroads, which did not exist in the old Albania, have been constructed, and all cities and villages have been provided with electricity. Per capita national income has increased more than 400 percent over the years of people's power.

Soviet people have had and continue to have friendly feelings for the Albanian people. They have never regarded as normal the estrangement which arose between our countries in the early sixties. The Soviet Union, true to its principled policy of improving relations with all socialist countries, has consistently advocated and continues to advocate improving the situation in Soviet-Albanian relations.

Congratulating Albanian working people on the 40th anniversary of Albania's proclamation as a people's republic, Soviet people sincerely wish them happiness and prosperity, and successes in socialist building.

MARCHUK SIGNS SCIENCE AGREEMENT WITH ROMANIA

PM131115 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Cooperation Is Expanding"]

[Text] Bucharest, 11 Jan -- A program for scientific and technical cooperation and production sharing between the USSR and Romania for 1986-1990 has been signed here. The program provides for the further development and improvement of Soviet-Romanian ties in the sphere of science and technology and the implementation of comprehensive measures which will contribute to the accelerated development and application in practice of a number of themes of great importance for the intensification of the national economies of both countries. In particular, great attention is to be paid to joint research in the sphere of the peaceful uses of atomic energy, to the search for new energy resources, and the expansion of the fuel and energy base.

The program was signed on the Soviet side by G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology; and on the Romanian side by Ioan Ursu, first vice chairman of the National Council for Science and Technology.

TRADE TALKS WITH BULGARIA END, AGREEMENTS SIGNED

Industrial Agreement

PM111441 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] An agreement was signed in Moscow 9 January between the USSR Government and the Bulgarian Government on cooperation in the construction, modernization, and updating of industrial enterprises and other projects in Bulgaria in 1986-1990.

In signing the agreement the sides were guided by the decisions of the CEMA economic summit conference and the provisions of the long-term program for the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria for the period through the year 2000.

The main volume of the Soviet Union's technical aid to Bulgaria will go toward developing Bulgaria's fuel, power, and raw materials base. A considerable proportion of deliveries of sets of Soviet equipment is earmarked for the construction of electric power industry projects, including thermal power stations using local fuel and nuclear power stations.

The agreement creates good prospects for the development sectors which determine scientific and technical progress.

Cooperation in improving the material and technical base of sectors of the agro-industrial complex will be developed considerably.

The agreement was signed by K.F. Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, on the Soviet side and K. Khristov, Bulgarian minister of foreign trade, on the Bulgarian side.

D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, was present at the signing.

Commodity Circulation Agreement

PM131035 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Agreement Signed"]

[Text] Talks between USSR and Bulgarian Government trade delegations were completed in Moscow on 10 January and an agreement was signed on commodity circulation and payments between the two countries for the period 1986-1990, as well as a protocol on commodity circulation in 1986.

During 1981-1985 the volumes of reciprocal commodity deliveries envisioned by the long-term trade agreement were significantly exceeded. The agreement signed envisions a further increase in reciprocal trade during 1986-1990 of approximately 40 percent in comparison with the preceding 5-year plan and is the realization of the long-term program for economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and Bulgaria for the period through 2000.

A significant increase in reciprocal deliveries of machines and equipment of a high technical standard and the implementation of measures to improve them is envisaged. This will help to speed up scientific and technical progress in both countries.

New forms of economic cooperation will be further developed, including direct production links between USSR and Bulgarian industrial enterprises manufacturing goods for export.

The expansion of trade and economic relations between the countries will be assisted by the activities of the joint Soviet-Bulgarian science and production associations set up in 1985 in the sphere of machine building.

The talks progressed in an atmosphere of businesslike cooperation, friendship, and comradely mutual understanding.

The documents were signed by the foreign trade ministers: V.I. Aristov for the USSR and K. Khristov for Bulgaria. D. Zhulev, Bulgarian ambassador to the USSR, also attended.

CSSR DEFENSE MINISTER CITED IN KRASNAYA ZVEZDA

PM101141 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Jan 86 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Preparing for the CPCZ Congress"]

[Text] Prague, 9 January -- Together with the USSR Armed Forces and the armed forces of the other Warsaw Pact states, the Czechoslovak People's Army is prepared to defend the motherland and the achievements of socialism, Colonel General M. Vaclavik, CSSR minister of national defense, stresses in an article published by the newspapers RUDE PRAVO and OBRANA LIDU.

It is devoted to the preparation of communists and the entire personnel of the Czechoslovak People's Army for the forthcoming 17th CPCZ Congress.

Appraising the military and political situation in the world, the article states, we cannot give way to illusions for a single minute: We must consider imperialism's policy realistically, on the basis of practical actions as a policy aimed at stepping up the arms race and confrontation. In view of this, the socialist countries are doing everything to preserve peace and eliminate the threat of a nuclear catastrophe. We do not aspire to military superiority, but nor will we permit superiority over us.

The CSSR consistently pursues a peace-loving Leninist foreign policy, the minister points out. However, as long as the NATO countries on the republic's western borders prepare for aggression, it is essential to increase the vigilance and combat readiness of the Czechoslovak People's Army.

In the precongress period, Colonel General M. Vaclavik notes, the ideological, political, and organizational cohesion of army Communists is clearly apparent, as is their vanguard role in mobilizing members of the Czechoslovak People's Army for a qualitative and enterprising resolution of the tasks of reinforcing the defense capability of the country and of the entire socialist community.

CSSR AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON FARMING SUCCESSES

PM090852 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 5 Jan 86 p 3

[TASS correspondent V. Rzhevskiy dispatch: "Basis of Successes"]

[Text] Prague, 4 Jan -- Czechoslovak working people have successfully coped with the tasks outlined by the 16th CPCZ Congress, Miroslav Toman, CSSR minister of agriculture and food, stated in an interview with a TASS correspondent. The 5-year plan targets have been overfulfilled for all the main indicators. Output volume in the sector grew by 9.7 percent in comparison with the previous 5-year plan. The country had achieved total self-sufficiency in grain by the end of the 5-year plan. Record grain harvests (the average yield was 43 quintals per hectare) have reinforced the stability of stockraising's feed base.

The basis forthe successes was achieved first and foremost by increasing production efficiency and improving management methods, the minister stressed. A new system for the planned management of the CSSR's agrofood complex came into force 1 January this year. It is aimed at intensifying agricultural production and coordinating the sector's scientific and technical development.

REPORTS, COMMENT ON FRG TALKS IN U.S. ON SDI

FRG's Bangemann Departs

LD112209 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0708 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Sergey Sosnovskiy report]

[Text] Bonn, 11 Jan (TASS)-- M. Bangemann, the FRG minister for economics, leaves for the United States today to hold talks with the U.S. Administration on the economic, technological, and legal details of participation by West German firms and concerns in the implementation of the sinister "star wars" program. This is an obvious step along the path of practical implementation of the decision adopted by the FRG Government at the end of last year to become involved in the program for the militarization of space according to Washington's scenario. The delegation, led by M. Bangemann, will meet G. Bush, the U.S. vice president; G. Shultz, the secretary of state; and C. Weinberger, the defense secretary.

As H. Kohl, the FRG chancellor, stated yesterday at a news conference in Bonn, his government fully supports the notorious "Strategic Defense Initiative", and expects that very soon the framework of an appropriate agreement with the United States will be worked out. When H. Kohl was asked whether the FRG recognizes the negative consequences of participation in preparations for "star wars", and what it is that dictates Bonn's determined striving to take part in the implementation of this program, the head of government declined to give a direct answer, referring only to the "well-known position" of his government on this question.

Wishing to join in Washington's dangerous space adventure at all costs, Bonn disregards the demands of the public, of scientists, and of prominent FRG political figures, for renunciation of all participation in SDI. Numerous public opinion polls show that the majority of citizens of the FRG are opposed to the militarization of space and to FRG participation in a qualitatively new spiral of the arms race.

PRAVDA Cited on Talks

LD130839 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 13 TASS -- "The owners of West Germany's military-industrial concerns are content, rubbing their hands gleefully: The government is meeting their wishes," Yuliy Yakhontov, Bonn correspondent for the newspaper PRAVDA, said in a comment, published in his paper today, on a visit to Washington by Martin Bangemann, West German economics minister and chairman of the Free Democratic Party, for talks on terms for his country's involvement in the American "Strategic Defense Initiative".

"Prominent Bonn politicians concerned with security issues are, the newspaper DIE WELT wrote, displeased that the talks have been entrusted to a man representing a party most of whose members disapprove of the militarization of outer space and of their country's involvement in that effort. This, however, is believed in local journalists circles to have been done on purpose, with account taken of the sentiments in the Free Democratic Party, to muffle the feelings of discontentment and alarm prevailing in broad sections of the country's population in connection with the future agreement."

"It is not a happenstance, therefore, that the list of assignments to be done by Bangemann says almost nothing of the 'Strategic Defense Initiative'," Yakhontov noted.

"It mostly speaks of the need to agree on 'better terms' for 'technological cooperation', access for West German firms to the whole spectrum of secret information gleaned in the course of research, copyright and other rights, in short anything but the FRG's participation in what is a most dangerous venture, the militarization of outer space."

"Public opinion in the Federal Republic of Germany is being shaped accordingly. Some papers openly say, for instance, that the government intends to conclude talks with the United States 'as soon as possible'. It is being hastened on by Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of Bavaria's right-wingers, who is believed here to have personal vested interests in the participation of some West German concerns in the SDI. Speaking in an interview with the selfsame DIE WELT, (which, incidentally, is also active in making the case for the SDI), T. Hefer, a member of the Bundestag known for his reactionary views, was eager to intimidate the readers: If Bonn fails to sign an agreement with Washington 'in the immediate future', he said, this will allegedly have 'the gravest consequences' for West Germany's security."

Talks Begin

LD132308 Moscow TASS in English 2246 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Washington, January 13 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Vladislav Legantsov.

A West German delegation led by Economics Minister Martin Bangemann has started talks here on conditions of Bonn's participation in the American "star wars" programme.

The delegation met with U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger, Secretary of State George Shultz, Secretary of Commerce Malcolm Baldrige and other officials. A meeting between Bangemann and U.S. Vice-President George Bush is on schedule too.

The Reagan administration is pressing the West German Government into assuming an official commitment under which West Germany's scientific and industrial potential would be placed at the Pentagon's disposal for implementing the dangerous plans of militarizing outer space.

According to U.S. Under Secretary of Defence for Policy Fred Ikle, the American side intends to consider at talks with the West German delegation the question of concluding an agreement similar to the cooperation accord already signed between teh United States and Britain. The Anglo-American agreement sets out general rules to guide British industrial companies, universities and research institutes in concluding contracts with the Washington administration on work within the framework of developing an ABM system with partially space-based elements.

THE WASHINGTON TIMES newspaper, commenting on the beginnning of the American-West German talks, observes that the Washington administration needs an official agreement between the two countriesin order to demonstrate approval for Ronald Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative" by American NATO allies.

FRG TRADE UNIONS DECLARE AGAINST SDI, U.S. MISSILES

LD132353 Moscow TASS in English 2100 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 13 TASS -- A number of district trade union organisations whose conferences are held in the Federal Republic of Germany these days declared in support of the Soviet peace initiativds, against the U.S. "star wars" plans and participation of the FRG in them.

We welcome the moratorium on all nuclear explosions announced unilaterally by the Soviet Union and we expect that the United States and other nuclear powers will follow that example so that the talks on concluding a comprehensive test ban treaty could end successfully, says a resolution adotped at a district conference of the Union of Workers in Trade, Banks and Insurance Institutions that was held in Minden.

The participants in the conference urged the FRG Government to give up direct or indirect participation in the implementation of the "star wars" programme, to refuse the deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in the FRG territory and demanded that Bonn enter talks on the creation of nuclear-free and chemical weapon-free zones in Europe.

A district conference of the Union of Workers in the Printing and Paper Industry, held in Bielefeld, assessed the "star wars" plans as part of the aggressive military strategy of the Pentagon that serves the aims of the United States hegemonistic policy and egoistic interests of U.S. war corporations. The participants in the conference urged the FRG Government to give up participation in these plans.

COMMENTATORS VIEW FRG STANCE ON MISSILE STATIONING

Grigoryev in PRAVDA

PM131233 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Yevgeniy Grigoryev "Commentator's Column": "Lack of Restraint"]

[Text] Certain well known circles in the United States and the FRG are marking UN Peace Year in their own particular way. They began it by delivering new U.S. cruise missiles to the Bonn state.

However, this is not simply the "planned implementation" of the notorious U.S.-NATO nuclear "arms upgrading" program. It concerns the FRG -- the only NATO country whose government has allowed it to be turned into a launchpad for Pershing-2 missiles, which pose a special threat to peace in Europe. According to information in the American NATIONAL JOURNAL, 156 such detonators of nuclear catastrophe have been delivered to the FRG: 108 in accordance with the NATO decision, the rest as "spares." With the Pershing-2 installation completed in December, a new round in the nuclear arms race is thus being started on FRG territory now, by larding it with cruise missiles.

Of course, the Pentagon's pointing finger is clearly visible in this pursuit of the illusion of military superiority. What are ruling circles in Bonn doing? They are good at paying lip service to the campaign for an end to the arms race, for restraint, and so forth. Listening to some Bonn figures you would think that the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva would not even have taken place but for their efforts? But the Bonn government's practical actions are quite different. When neighboring countries propose, for example, discussing the question of creating a chemical weapon-free zone, people on the Rhine "swamp" the good deed in a flood of excuses. But when it comes to "arms upgrading" or an adventurist undertaking like the "star wars" program, Bonn's support is assured.

As a result the FRG, from which its leaders assure us the threat of war must never arise again, is increasingly sinking beneath mountains of weapons, among them the most dangerous weapons for peace and the peoples' future.

The Soviet Union has made many earnest efforts to break the deadlock in resolving the question of medium-range missiles in Europe. Our new constructive proposals on this score are well known. It is gratifying to note that the idea of an interim agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe is one area at the Soviet-U.S. summit where there were "points of contact."

It is easy to see that the continued buildup of those weapons can only make it harder to put this idea into effect. That is the aim of the Pentagon and the U.S. military-industrial complex, which are now leading the attack against the Geneva meeting's results. Is Bonn in agreement with this, then?

However, it is precisely now after Geneva that political wisdom more than ever before demands circumspection and restraint: It demands not the complication of an already difficult situation but, on the contrary, the comprehensive promotion of the prospects for implementing the Geneva accords. The FRG could make a constructive contribution here. But the question is -- does Bonn have the corresponding political will and good will?

The FRG public undoubtedly has that will. This was shown once more by the protest demonstration that greeted the cruise missiles. The peoples demand a halt to the further deployment of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. People of good will resolutely urge that it be reduced and eliminated in the interests of peace and security in Europe. And they do not intend to slacken that struggle.

Aksyonov Comments

LD101156 Moscow TASS in English 1155 GMT 10 Jan 86

["Cruise Missiles Arrive at Hann Base" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, January 10 TASS -- TASS commentator Lev Aksyonov writes:

The first American cruise missile out of the 96 to be deployed on West German soil under the December 1979 "double-track decision" by NATO arrived in the FRG. The ARD TV network, reporting the event, noted that this first-strike weapon would be deployed at the American base Hann.

Certain West German officials noted in their statements, not without satisfaction, that the NATO schedule of deploying new missiles was kept with meticulous accuracy.

However, if those who toe the Washington administration's line might feel some satisfaction, the same hardly goes for the millions of ordinary West Germans who hold a diametrically opposite stand on the "missile issue." On the same day when the missile was delivered to the FRG, there was a mass demonstration in Haselbach, near which the base is situated, protesting the escalation of the race of nuclear missile weapons.

Sober-minded politicians and public figures in the FRG point out with alarm that the security of West Germany, which already has 108 Pershing-2 missiles on its territory, is undermined.

Even if one would not endeavor to predict the deadly consequences, with which the realisation of NATO missile decisions is fraught for the FRG in the event of a military confrontation, the presence of such weaponry in peacetime poses a real danger to the life of the citizens themselves. Since the beginning of the deployment of Pershing-2 missiles, there were several accidents involving these missiles which could result in disaster. Now that the cruise missiles begin to be sited, this danger increases even more.

Levin on Missiles

LD140932 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] DPA has reported on a speech by Todenhoefer, a representative of the CDU/CSU faction in the FRG Bundestag. He alleged that none of the preceding FRG governments did as much to limit arms as the present one. The statement is not simply dubious, but completely unjustified. It is precisely under the present government that the deployment of U.S. Pershing-2 first-strike nuclear missiles on the territory of the FRG started and has already been completed. And cruise missiles, too, began to arrive last week. A total of 96 of them are planned to be deployed in the FRG. The general public of the country is resolutely protesting against FRG being turned into a base for U.S. nuclear death. The antiwar organizations are planning to carry out mass demonstrations; discontent is growing in force. Is that not the cause of Todenhoefer's duplicitous speech? I ask my colleague Viktor Levin to answer that question.

[Levin] I would say that that is one of the causes; to deceive public opinion, to mislead the citizens of the FRG. This is the aim which Todenhoefer is pursuing, and not only in the aforementioned speech. According to the official table of ranks, Todenhoefer is considered to be the spokesman of the CDU/CSU faction on the question of disarmament, but all his efforts are directed toward a continuation and strengthening of armaments, the fostering of tension. Todenhoefer does not hold back when it comes to ways and means. Even such a blatant lie as the claim about the actions of the FRG Government in pursuit of disarmament is not the peak of his fabrications. He knows no shame in his attempts to deceive the general public. And after all, it is precisely the present cabinet that is marked by its unquestioning, not to say servile, following of the most dangerous of Washington's ventures. The FRG has offered its territory for U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles and supported the "star wars" program.

On the other hand, in all sorts of ways Bonn is avoiding answering the concrete proposals from the GDR and Czechoslovakia to start talks on the creation of a chemical weapons free zone in Central Europe. But according to Todenhoefer, it would appear that Bonn entertains no thoughts other than to promote disarmament. But after all, policies are judged not by words, but by deeds.

At the same time, in talking about the beginning of the deployment of cruise missiles in the FRG -- the first arrived last Thursday, and soon the others will follow -- I would not like to pin all the responsibility on the Bonn government.

It is guilty of complicity. But the actual authorship of these actions, dangerous for the cause of peace, belongs to the United States -- and these actions are not simply dangerous; but, in the present circumstances, provocative, too. Judge for yourselves. The Soviet Union has made concrete, and very far-reaching proposals on medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe. To start with, our country, aiming to assist an accord on the earliest possible mutual reduction of them, considers that it is possible to reach a corresponding agreement separately, without tying it directly to the problem of space and strategic weapons.

Second, the Soviet Union has introduced a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe. Third, our country has decided to reduce the number of missiles in a state of operational readiness, in order to bring their overall number to the level existing before the beginning of the adoption of countermeasures. In 2 months, as was announced, the fixed installations for additionally deployed missiles were dismantled. We now have 243 missiles.

These facts convincingly confirm that the Soviet Union does not simply declare its will to achieve an accord, but bears out its readiness to go its part of the distance with real deeds. And under these conditions, the continued deployment of U.S. nuclear missiles in Europe looks provocative. Todenhoefer attempts to disguise that fact, too. But it is impossible to justify the course of the United States and the FRG toward an intensification of tension.

FRG PUBLIC PROTESTS PERSHING-2 DEPLOYMENT

LD101805 Moscow TASS in English 1748 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 10 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Sosnovskiy writes:

The Ministry of Defence of the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) officially announced today that a special commission of the U.S. Army has completed the investigation of the causes of the incident with the first-strike nuclear missile "Pershing-2" which had taken place at Waldheide Base near the city of Heilbronn a year ago. A powerful explosion is known to have occurred owing to the self-actuation of the missile's motor. As a result of the explosion, three U.S. soldiers were killed and sixteen seriously injured. Only by good fortune the incident with the "Pershing-2" missile did not lead to truly fatal consequences. The fire that blazed out could spread over to the near-by storage of other missiles as well as of nuclear warheads for them.

The incident in Heilbronn gave rise to protests among the FRG's peace-loving public who demanded that the Waldheide military base be wound up and that the U.S. first-strike nuclear-missile systems which had been deployed contrary to the will of an overwhelming majority of the country's population be removed. The Heilbronn authorities also joined in the protests.

The U.S. military in every way sought to hush up the incident with the nuclear missile and to downplay the wave of protests against the conversion of the FRG's territory into a launching site for nuclear death. The notorious "investigation" which has been announced by Bonn's Defence Ministry is obviously subordinated to those goals: The investigation has ostensibly confirmed that it was a question of only an ordinary "technical malfunction".

Meanwhile the deployment of "Pershing-2" missiles in the FRG's territory has been fully completed. The Pentagon, with the consent of the ruling circles of the FRG, has started siting nuclear-tipped cruise missiles on West German soil. According to the land organisation of the Greens Party, all the cruise missiles intended for being sited in West Germany are already in the FRG, and not one cruise missile. They were secretly brought into the country half a year ago.

The ongoing conversion of the FRG's territory into the USA's and NATO's nuclear missile staging area has given rise to a wave of indignation among the public.

The peace campaigners of Rhine-Hunsrueck-Mosel District have issued a statement demanding that the deployment of cruise missiles be immediately stopped and that the already deployed first-strike nuclear-missile systems be removed. "The deployment of missiles is being carried out contrary to the will of an overwhelming majority of our country's population," the statement stresses.

FRG DEPUTY'S OPEN LETTER TO U.S. AMBASSADOR CITED

LD140410 Moscow TASS in English 0353 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Bonn, January 13 TASS -- Torsten Lange, a West German Bundestag deputy from the Greens Party, has denounced U.S. aggressive policy directed at gaining military superiority.

In an open letter to the U.S. ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, he criticized the American Administration for escalating military preparations on West German territory, assessing these actions as an integral part of the U.S. efforts to establish American domination all over the world, as an attempt to create conditions for waging wars outside U.S. territory. With this aim in mind, the Pentagon has stuffed up West Germany with numerous weaponry systems, which threatens to turn its territory into a radioactive desert, the parliamentarian stressed.

He pointed to the dangers of the deployment of American first-strike nuclear missiles in West Germany. An overwhelming majority of the country's population are opposed to the deployment.

FIRST PHASE OF UK MISSILE DEPLOYMENT COMPLETED

LD131809 Moscow TASS in English 1751 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] London January 13 TASS -- The first phase of the program for the siting [of] U.S. first-strike nuclear missiles in Britain has been completed. The program is implemented by the Margaret Thatcher government on Washington's insistence. According to the DAILY EXPRESS, all of the 96 cruise missiles to be deployed at the air force base in Greenham Common have been delivered there and stationed in hardened underground shelters. Now, according to the paper, authorities will center their attention on another base situated at Molesworth. In keeping with the existing plans, another batch of cruise missiles is to be delivered to there next year. According to the DAILY EXPRESS, preparatory work is already under way there.

'SLANDEROUS CAMPAIGN' IN AGCA TRIAL SET BY AMERICANS

LD072317 Moscow TASS in English 1853 GMT 7 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 7 TASS -- "The longer the trial draws on, the more evident is the true nature of the deceivers and slanderers. The lies uttered by Agca bring to light the moral and professional character of those who sold their journalistic talent to the enemies of socialism", IZVESTIYA writes today in connection with the Pope John Paul II attempted murder trial. The newspaper points out that the so-called "Bulgarian trace" has disappeared at the trial in the face of irrefutable facts. However, there remained those who were the first to "notice" it, and who not only noticed this non-existent "trace", but also drew to it the attention of others, who filled the Western press with inventions about the "Bulgarian villains" and, of course, the "hand of Moscow". The tone in this slanderous and hysterical campaign was set by Americans. The two of them, Paul Henze and Clare Sterling, were the first to write articles, and then books, in the attempt to turn the Italian judicial bodies in the wrong direction.

According to IZVESTIA's correspondent in Sofia, the newspaper SOFIISKI NOVOSTI asked P. Henze and C. Sterling to disclose the motives that had induced them to write books about the "conspiracy" in which Bulgarians allegedly had taken part.

P. Henze was the first to answer this question. Without giving any explanations in his answer proving the complicity of Bulgaria in the conspiracy, he confined himself to a formal reply.

As for C. Sterling, she did not give any examples from the trial which would substantiate her "conclusions".

IZVESTIYA writes in this connection that Clare Sterling is neither a journalist, nor a researcher, but a slanderer who, as she herself admitted, had both time and opportunity to conduct her own investigation which others could not do.

"It is easy to understand what she meant by it and what was noticed by the press -- her connections with the CIA where the idea of a 'Bulgarian version' emerged", the newspaper points out. Paul Henze, the other who spread this idea and who was presented as an "independent writer", is actually a CIA veteran who had held important posts there. From 1974 to 1977 he headed the CIA spy network in Turkey. Hence his connections with "grey wolves".

NORWEGIAN MINISTER'S ANTI-SOVIET ALLEGATIONS' CITED

LD121335 Moscow TASS in English 1354 GMT 12 Jan 86

[Text] Moscow, January 12 TASS -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA characterizes the anti-Soviet allegations of Norwegian Defense Minister Sjaastad, voiced by him at the military society in Oslo, as an attempt to justify the open departure of the Norwegian Government from its obligations not to let foreign troops and nuclear weapons be deployed in the territory of the country.

Storage facilities for heavy armaments and technology have been built in Trondelag for a U.S. Marine brigade which is to be shipped to Norway in a "crisis situation." The newspaper FORSVARETS FORUM says that storage facilities for heavy armaments for the Canadian, British and Dutch contingents of the NATO backup force are going to be built 20 kilometres to the north of the Bardufoss Air Force base.

The public has also learned facts indicating that American aircraft carrier task forces intended to deliver nuclear strikes at vital centres of the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community are going to be deployed off the Norwegian shores. This was stated, in particular, by U.S. Admiral McDonald, supreme allied commander in the Atlantic.

NATO troops regularly staged manoeuvres and exercises in Norwegian territory. For instance, on the day Sjaastad spoke at the military society, the Norwegian telegraph bureau announced that major NATO exercises, "Anker Express-86," would be held in the north of the country in March. But this escalation of war preparations, the newspaper continues, is viewed by Defense Minister Sjaastad as a measure "strengthening the basis for the further preservation by Norway of a low-tension profile in the north."

But in reality, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA stresses in conclusion, the expansion of NATO's militarist activities in the north of Europe that is being rationalized by the Norwegian defense minister poses a threat to the security of the peoples there and whips up tension in the region.

IZVESTIYA SCORES REMARKS BY SWEDISH PARTY LEADER

PM091021 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Sychev "Rejoinder": "Political Vertigo"]

[Text] Stockholm -- "...Nothing could be more useful to lasting peace than the replacement of the communist regime in the Soviet Union." These words, clearly taken from the arsenals of "cold war" times, come not from a diehard reactionary who has finally lost all sense of time and moderation, but from the leader of the quite respectable, liberal People's Party of Sweden, Bengt Westerberg. They were uttered from the platform at Uppsala University, where he recently met with young recruits from his party's youth league.

The open call for interference in a sovereign state's internal affairs confused the distribution of parties which the Swedes are used to, unexpectedly putting Westerberg's People's Party far to the right, beyond the limits of the political spectrum. A leap of this kind can hardly be met within the country's history.

Unfortunately B. Westerberg did not consider it necessary to let his Uppsala audience into the secret of his motives, and they were left to speculate as to whether the speaker had found an example to imitate outside Sweden, for want of a homegrown example. After all, while in Uppsala B. Westerberg also sang the praises of American society, which, he says, is all but a "source of inspiration" for the Swedish liberals.

There is another possibility. At last year's parliamentary elections, the People's Party considerably increased its representation in the Riksdat (parliament). Some people claim virtually a triumph for the party. Well, at the peak of glory. As also happens on the mountaintops, it is not uncommon for people to experience vertigo. Obviously that is what happened to B. Westerberg, unless you admit the existence of the intention to prescribe "anti-Sovietism" in neutral Sweden's official policy. In any event, there is no doubt that gambling on this marked card will not bring the party a real political win.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN ARKHIPOV ARRIVES IN FINLAND

For reportage on the visit of First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Ivan Arkhipov to Finland, including reports on the meeting of the chairmen of the Soviet-Finnish Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation, please see the Nordic Affairs section of the 13 January Western Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

TASS REPORTS ATTEMPTED COUP IN PDRY

LD131528 Moscow TASS in English 1513 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Aden, January 13 TASS -- Radio Aden transmitted an official political statement of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Yemen Socialist Party. The statement says that an attempt at a state coup against the Yemen revolution and an attempt on the life of 'Ali Nasir Muhammad were made in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen today. To rebuff the counter-revolutionaries the Political Bureau has set up a special committee. It passed death sentences on 'Ali Antar, 'Abd al-Fatah Ismail, 'Ali Al-Baydh and 'Ali Hadi. The sentence has been executed. The other participants in the conspiracy have been arrested and will stand trial.

The political bureau headed by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a call to the people, the army, security forces and people's militia to be vigilant and rebuff the intrigues of reaction.

SOVIET SHIPS REPORTEDLY FOIL OPERATION AGAINST LIBYA

GF131944 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Jan 86 pp 1, 21

[Text] Amman -- Reports reaching Amman said that last Tuesday [7 January] at dawn the Soviet fleet's ships in the Mediterranean Sea foiled an Israeli operation aimed against Libya. In this operation, an Israeli commando force belonging to the special unit for combating terrorism under General Dan Shamron, Israeli deputy chief of staff, used two helicopter carriers with (Ha'aliah) helicopters accompanied by six fast ships carrying Dabur surface-to-surface missiles and (?reshef) SAM missiles. The force included 65 soldiers belonging to the special unit for combating terrorism which has recently received intensive military training in the Negev desert which greatly resembles the targets picked out in Libya.

The sources added: The attacking Israeli force was supposed to be transferred from the sea by military helicopters on the Israeli ships. It had been planned that the helicopters would fly at very low altitudes, lest they be detected by Libyan radar, and land at specified locations in Libya.

It had been planned that his force be distributed into four attacking groups, each allocated certain targets inside Libya. This Israeli operation was called (Dobf), after the high-ranking Mossad officer (Dobf Ben-Ya'ir) who was killed while carrying out a security task. The commander of this operation, General Dan Shamron, who is currently the Israeli deputy chief of staff, was chosen at his request, which in turn was granted by Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. General Dan Shamron also led the Israeli military operation at Entebbe Airport in Uganda.

The same souces added: Spy ships belonging to the Soviet Fleet [in the Mediterranean] detected the Israeli ships at a location not too distant from the Libyan coast. The Soviets threatened to destroy the Israeli force 7 minutes from the time of their warning if the Israeli force did not retreat to Israeli territorial waters. The Israeli force was ordered to withdraw by Israeli Naval Commander Ben (Shoshan) and Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin. This abortive operation cost Israel a great amount.

Meanwhile, the same Israeli [as published] sources quoted well-informed and high-level sources as saying that a few days ago important reports in occupied Jerusalem said: Tens of military pilots from the Soviet Union and some Warsaw Pact countries including the GDR and the SRV [as published] recently arrived in Libya to work in the Libyan airforce. These pilots went to Libya in response to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's request to confront any possible military operation against libya. These pilots number 30 and began their work with the Libyan airforce a few days ago. The United States was informed about these pilots.

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON U.S.-LIBYAN TENSIONS

Official on U.S. Fleet Moves

LD091126 Kuwait KUNA in English 1044 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 9 (KUNA) -- A ranking Soviet information official was quoted as saying here Thursday that Washington has created an odd situation by bringing its fleet opposite to Libya's coasts.

Deputy Head of the Soviet Foreign Ministry's Press Department Valeriy Sokhin told the Kuwaiti AL-ANBA' newspaper that the American behavior "completely contradicts with the spirit of the Geneva summit which raised the hope of clearing the international atmoshpere and easing tension in the world."

He said the Soviet Union "is paying attention to the tense situation resulting from American threats and Washington's plans to use force against an independent state like Libya, which maintains relations of friendship and cooperation with the Soviet Union."

The U.S. Administration accused Libya of backing international terrorism and of granting facilities to the group that supposedly attacked the travel counters of the Israeli El Al Airlines company in Rome and Vienna airports late last month.

The Soviet Union is calling for sparing no efforts by all forces and quarters to provide for a peaceful and political settlement of the issue, the Soviet official said.

On the recent visit to Moscow by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Sokhim said" "The visit was beneficial and successful and the talks had focussed on fostering bilateral relations, based on the friendship and cooperation treaty signed several years ago."

Answering a question on the Syrian-Jordanian reconciliation, the Soviet official said it was a positive development that will soon reflect on the Iraq-Iran war.

On the PLO, the official said the Soviet Union considers the Palestinian organization as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, adding this means that the PLO should play its pioneering political role as in the past.

He regretted that differences within the PLO are a weakening factor in the Palestinian organization and stressed that Moscow is holding contacts with all Palestinian commando groups.

Libyan Statement on U.S. Citizens

LD131126 Moscow TASS in English 1114 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli January 13 TASS - Libya's Foreign Ministry has issued a statement, which says that all foreigners, now staying in Libyan territory, may, if they wish, leave the country at any moment. The Foreign Ministry again pointed out in its statement that all foreigners, including U.S. citizens, enjoy in Libya freedom of residence and movement amid full security, JANA news agency reports. They may, if they wish, leave the boundaries of Libya. President Reagan is known to have ordered, within the framework of the anti-Libyan campaign mounted by him, the U.S. citizens working in Libya immediately to leave the country where they are under an alleged threat of violence and terror. In case they do not comply with this order, they are to be jailed or fined to a huge sum of money.

Al-Turayki Cited on Countermeasures

LD131350 Moscow TASS in English 1315 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Tripoli January 13 TASS -- 'Ali al-Turayki, Libyan secretary of the People's Bureau for External Liaison, said in an interview to the JANA NEWS AGENCY that a conference of the foreign ministers of Arab countries due to take place in late January would approve concrete countermeasures to the American sanctions against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He pointed out that the economic boycott imposed by the United States on Libya constituted a direct threat to all the Arab and Moslem states.

The People's Bureau for External Liaison rebutted the allegations of the U.S. Administration about the situation of American nationals working in Libya. Libya, a statement released by the bureau says, has always sought to develop relations of friendship and cooperation with all the peoples of the world, including the American people. At present nationals of more than 130 countries, including the United States, are living and working in absolute safety in the republic.

In response to the slanderous allegations of American propaganda, the People's Bureau for External Liaison states that all the Americans, like the citizens of other countries, enjoy in Libya full freedom of movement and residence and can leave the territory of the country at will whenever they wish.

As a part of the anti-Libyan campaign launched by him, President Reagan has ordered all the American citizens who work in Libya immediately to leave the country -- or face imprisonment or stiff fines.

Ministers Condemn U.S. Threats

LD100011 Moscow TASS in English 2345 GMT 9 Jan 86

[Text] Fes, (Morocco) January 10 TASS -- The participants in the current 16th conference of the ministers of foreign affairs of Moslem countries here have condemned the United States' threats and military preparations with regard to Libya. The opinion of most delegations is that the Washington-announced discriminatory sanctions are an undisguised aggression against the sovereign Arab state, an official spokesman of the conference has pointed out.

The ministers of foreign affairs have unanimously adopted a declartion condemning "the U.S. government's measures against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, the measures which run counter to the generally accepted norms of international law."

The declaration expresses "full solidarity with the Libyan people in the face of U.S. imperialism's actions which do damage to the sovereignty and independence of Libya and which are aimed at frustrating the economic development plans of that country". The leaders of delegations emphasized the unlawfulness of the U.S. economic sanctions and demanded that they be cancelled. They urged Moslem states to "take adequate measures to counter-act the U.S. arbitrariness."

Libya Deploys Defensive Missiles

PM131722 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian No 2, 8 Jan 86 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Viewpoint": "The Near East: Another Two Wars?"]

[Text] There is talk of war in the Near East again. Loud talk! This time about two wars at once -- American-Libyan and Israeli-Syrian. The press has already reported the menacing movement of U.S. aircraft carriers and battleships toward the Libyan coast and the intention of the Israeli military to launch a strike against Damascus.

The real cause of the extremely dangerous and unpredictable situation is the Libyan and Syrian defensive measures. Both countries have deployed air defense missiles to guard against potential external strikes, within the confines of their own national borders. The United States and Israel imagine that they can tell Libya and Syria what they can and cannot do. Apparently, these Arab states have no right to strengthen their own defenses. . .

But in basic terms it is an attempt by the Unites States and Israel to wreck Libyan and Syrian policy. Cooperation between these Arab states and the Soviet Union has been an irritant to the United States. It also seems that Washington and Tel Aviv want to halt the process of the further improvement of relations between the Arab countries -- irrespective, incidentally, of the nature of their regimes -- and Arab-Soviet relations. The United States and Israel see this process, which has been developing inexorably in recent months, as a grave threat to their Near East positions. The Arab world is turning with ever growing resolve to the Soviet Union, thus nullifying the belief that the Americans hold the key to a Near East settlement.

Incidentally, this belief, which began its like under al-Sadat, has never corresponded to the political realities in that region. Now the majority of, if not all, serious politicians in the world realize it, and this is also affecting the situation. It is no accident that the search for separate deals at the Palestinians' expense has led nowhere. All manner of "axes," formed by those who succumbed to the modernized Camp David, have come to naught.

In the present situation, obviously a losing situation as far as they are concerned, the United States and Israel are banking on destabilizing the Near East and Mediterranean, as was made apparent by the bombardment of the PLO headquarters near Tunis 1 October 1985, which was a joint American-Israeli action.

It was followed by a long chain of events intended not only to justify U.S. and Israeli state terrorism but also to intimidate those West Europeans who are disinclined to back aggressive anti-Arabism and anti-Sovietism in the Near East. I will mention a few of the events: the hijacking of the Italian cruise liner "Achille Lauro" by some Palestinians in October and the murder of an elderly U.S. invalid who was a tourist on board the ship. This demonstrated the inhumanity and savagery of those who had seized the ship. This was followed by the interception of an Egyptian Boeing passenger aircraft by U.S. F-14's and its landing at the NATO base in Sicily, which aggravated U.S. relations with Egyptian President Mubarak and Italian Prime Minister Craxi.

The rumor factor was soon in operation. Certain contacts took place in Cyprus 8 November as a result of which it allegedly became certain that Syria would not hinder efforts by King Husayn and the PLO leader aimed at further meetings between Husayn and Peres; that Tel Aviv was allegedly prepared to "concede" to Syria one-third of the Golan Heights, currently occupied by Israel. Damascus denied these reports. At the same time, there was an amplified reappearance of the claims that Moscow was apparently ready to restore diplomatic relations with Tel Aviv.

On 23 November 1985 there occurred the tragedy of the Egyptian Boeing which was seized by hijackers and forced to land in Malta. Then the sole target was... Libya, which was termed... the "center of international terrorism." In December the anti-Libyan campaign snowballed. It was an extension of the old CIA war against Libya. They started talking about an Egyptian-Libyan war, but it was not Mubarak whom the Arabs supported...

On 27 December 1985 there were two more terrorist acts -- at Rome and Vienna airports. Again dozens of people were killed and hundreds were injured. Again Libya was accused, despite the official repudiation and condemnation of terrorism made in Tripoli. It was after the bullets and explosions at Rome and Vienna that U.S. Navy ships made for the Libyan coast and Washington tried to force West Europe to slap economic sanctions on al-Qadhdhafi. Tel Aviv continues to talk about a war against Syria.

All that we are witnessing in the Near East and in the Mediterranean is geared to creating a situation in which it would be possible to justify military actions against Libya and Syria. On 27 December Italian Government head B. Craxi told journalists of his belief that it was not just "Arab-Palestinian extremist groupings" who were behind the terrorist act in Rome. "The terrorists' actions are directed by foreign states," Craxi said. The Italian prime minister had gotten to the root of the matter. The United States and Israel are the ones who need to destablize the Near East and the Mediterranean in order to crush Syria and Libya and, with them, the Arabs who are conducting a national, not proimperialist policy. Will the United States and Israeli acts of subversion lead to the desired result? No! Indeed, the Arab world is today on the side of Liyba and Syria and their just cause.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS KUWAITI MILITARY EVENTS

LD131848 Kuwait KUNA in English 1654 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 13 (KUNA) -- Visiting Soviet Deputy Defense Minister General Vladimir Govorov Monday [13 January] attended military demonstrations and a folklore show. Demonstrations by commando units in cooperation with the airforce, were attended by Defense Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah, Defense Undersecretary 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Khamies [name as received], Soviet ambassador and senior army officers. The Soviet guest and the accompanying delegation also attended a folklore show performed by local troupes.

Earlier today, General Govorov visited the Doha power station where he toured around its installations, considered one of the largest in the region.

AIR FORCE CHIEF ATTENDS IRAQI EMBASSY RECEPTION

PM091223 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Jan 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "To Mark the Holiday"]

[Text] On 6 January S.A.M. al-Faysal, ambassador of the Republic of Iraq to the USSR, and Brigadier T.F.M. al-Hazza', military attache, gave a reception to mark Iraqi Army Day.

The reception was attended by Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, commander in chief of the Air Force and USSR deputy defense minister, and by generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

Those invited included the military, naval, and air attaches at the embassies of a number of foreign states in the USSR.

USSR, SUDAN FOREIGN MINISTRIES EXCHANGE CABLES

PM091001 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] In connection with the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, the USSR and Sudanese Foreign Ministries have exchanged greetings telegrams.

The USSR Foreign Ministry's telegram says that Soviet-Sudanese relations, established in a crucial period of Sudan's history -- immediately after its proclamation of independence, have been developing fruitfully for a number of years for the benefit of our countries' peoples and in the interests of strengthening peace and stability in the Near East and Africa.

The Soviet Union, the telegram stresses, continues to advocate that these relations be further developed on the basis of the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty, and noninterference in internal affairs.

The Sudanese Foreign Ministry's telegram notes the determination of the Sudanese people and government to continue to strengthen relations between the two countries in all spheres. This determination was reaffirmed quite clearly after the Sudanese people's revolutionary action last April.

Confidence is expressed that the Soviet Union will continue to support the just struggle of the peoples of the Near East and southern Africa and promote the strengthening of world peace.

SUDANESE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC TIES

LD041919 Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Text] Khartoum January 4 TASS -- Sudan's Foreign Affairs Ministry has made a statement to mark the 30th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the USSR and the Republic of Sudan. The statement points out that immediately after Sudan gained independence, the Soviet Union announced its recognition of Sudan and sent a diplomatic mission to Khartoum to develop bilateral relations in the political, economic, cultural and scientific fields. This step of the USSR follows from its position of support for the peoples' struggle against colonial dominance, for freedom and independence.

The Soviet Union, the statement runs, helped Sudan to develop its economy. With its assistance, a number of economic projects were put into operation in the country. The USSR [words indistinct] with Sudan its rich scientific and technological experience and offered Sudanese young people broad opportunities for studying at Soviet higher educational establishments. Their graduates continue working fruitfully in many important branches of the Sudanese economy.

Sudan, it is pointed out in the statement, favours further strengthening of relations with the Soviet Union in all fields. Their extension will promote the interests of the peoples of both countries, the cause of strengthening peace and international security.

'CHANGES' IN SUDAN'S DOMESTIC SPHERE NOTED

LD041941 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 4 Jan 86

[Report by correspondent L. Rassadin; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The ordinary Sudanese people probably have never before shown such interest in the country's political life. The newspapers literally are snapped up in Khartoum in the early morning. This is probably due to some extent to the quite recent gloomy times when the semi-official press -- for there was no other -- merely glorified the despotic regime, reporting nothing of the corruption, swindling, and bribery among the ruling circles.

The situation has changed now. The papers, and especially AL-MAYDAN, the Sudanese Communist newspaper, are writing openly on the most acute and burning problems confronting the country. Although the situation remains very complicated and contradictory today, a number of changes have become evident.

One of the most important is the open activity, meetings, and gatherings of the previously banned parties. Elections to the legislative assembly are to be held. The military, which came to power following Numayri's overthrow, is due to hand over to a civil administration in the spring.

We went to a meeting of the general council of the Sudanese trade union alliance, which comprises approximately 200 trade union organizations in the country. There were heated arguments and debates there. Representatives of various unions expressed alarm at their country's fate. The main danger, they asserted, is the growing activity of right-wing forces, particularly the Muslim Brotherhood organization, as well as outside interference, especially from the United States. The speakers stressed that the democratic forces' main task in the current situation is to close ranks on a wide front to effectively counter any intrigues from internal and external reaction.

PRAVDA REPORTS ANGOLAN-U.S. TALKS IN LUANDA

PM131617 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Own Correspondent M. Zenovich dispatch: "Principled Position" -- uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Text] Luanda, 12 Jan -- The Angolan mass media yesterday reported the ENDING OF TALKS IN LUANDA BETWEEN ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES AND A U.S. DELEGATION headed by C. Crocker, assistant secretary of state for African affairs, regarding the situation in southern Africa and in particular the question of Namibian independence within the framework of UN Security Council Resolution 435.

No documents revealing the talks' specific results have yet been distributed. Nevertheless, a statement has been published here, made by Angolian President Jose Eduardo dos Santos during an audience with C. Crocker, clearly expressing grave concern at the visit to be made to Washington in the near future by the ringleader of the puppet grouping the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], which is the racist South African regime's instrument for the military and socioeconomic destabilization of Angola. Jose Eduardo dos Santos pointed out that Savimbi's visit and the military and other assistance that the United States intends giving him are viewed as a form of pressure on Angola and as a U.S. declaration of war on the Angolan people.

The Angolan President noted that the independent and sovereign Angolan people do not intend to forego the rights and principles determining their domestic and foreign policy. IN THE EVENT OF NEW ACTS OF AGGRESSION ANGOLA WILL UNHESITATINGLY TURN TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY FOR ASSISTANCE AND ASK ITS TRADITIONAL FRIENDS FOR HELP IN DEFENDING ITS INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

ANGOLA'S DOS SANTOS CABLES GORBACHEV, GROMYKO

LD132219 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] A telegram has arrived addressed to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, from Jose Eduardo Dos Santos, chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party, President of Angola, expressing gratitude for the congratulations on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the proclamation of independece of the People's Republic of Angola. The message expresses the confidence that the relations of friendship, solidarity and cooperation existing between our parties and governments will develop for the benefit of both countries.

USSR BODIES, BENIN PRESIDENT EXCHANGE CABLES

PM091627 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Jan 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Exchange of Telegrams"]

[Text] The CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers, have sent Mathieu Kerekou, chairman of the Benin People's Revolutionary Party (PRPB) Central Committee, president of the People's Republic of Benin, and chairman of the National Executive Council, a telegram congratulating him, the PRPB, the government, and friendly people of Benin on their national holiday and wishing them success in carrying out the tasks facing the country.

The telegram notes that the progressive socioeconomic transformations that are being carried out by the Benin people under the leadership of the PRPB and their struggle against imperialism, neocolonialism, racism, and apartheid and for lasting peace and the security of the peoples meet with support among the world's progressive forces.

In a reply telegram M. Kerekou expressed ardent and sincere gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and USSR Council of Ministers for the congratulations and best wishes. The telegrams express confidence that the relations of friendship and multifaceted fruitful cooperation linking the CPSU and the PRPB, the two states, and the governments and peoples of the two countries will continue to deepen and widen for the benefit of the two peoples and for the triumph of peace and social progress.

WESTERN ATTEMPTS TO DESTABILIZE GHANA NOTED

LD091118 Moscow in English to Africa 1700 GMT 6 Jan 86

[From the "Africa As We See It" program]

[Text] The Provisional National Defense Council led by Captain Jerry Rawlings came to power in Ghana 4 years ago on the eve of 1982. Vladlen Mikhaylov makes these comments:

The purpose is to build for ourselves and the generations to come, a strong united country of happy working people who live in dignity without exploiting anyone or letting anyone exploit them. The statement is made in the preamble of a statute of the Revolutionary Defense Committee, a fundamental document that channelled the direction of the changes that the military administration is carrying out in Ghana. Working people, students and progressive public organizations, primarily trade unions, supported the program of the council and its undertakings. It's too early to speak of a crucial turn for the better in Ghana, though changes in this direction are noticeable in all spheres of life. THE GHANAIAN TIMES is apparently correct saying that now the Ghanaians can see the light at the end of the tunnel. A number of industrial enterprises work on local raw materials. The industrial sector is active again. Progress has been made in agriculture. The output of food has increased. Unlike other African countries there was no famine in Ghana, even in the extremely dry year of 1983. Moreover, Ghanaians sent food aid to the hungry population of Mali and Burkina Faso.

But the life of simple working people in Ghana is still hard. The prices of food and necessities are extremely high and so is the rate of enemployment. The financial position of the country, burdened by foreign debt, is complicated. Western financial and industrial circles are trying to use this to make the Ghanaians give up their struggle for economic and social liberation. Washington's recent blackmail had the same purpose. On a false pretext it stopped financial aid to Ghana.

Western special services don't give up attempts to destabilize the situation in the country. This was proved by a recent trial of CIA agents in Accra. In a recent speech in Accra the head of the Ghanaian administration, Jerry Rawlings, said that the nation is determined to persistently advance along the path of building a new life and that future success is (?wholly) dependent on the ability of the country to mobilize its resources; on the discipline and contribution of each Ghanaian in the revival of the republic.

ORTEGA CONDEMNS U.S. 'CRIMINAL TERRORIST' POLICY

LD131802 Moscow TASS in English 1742 GMT 13 Jan 86

["Daniel Ortega: U.S. Aggression Is a Flop; Daniel Ortega's Interview to a Group of Soviet Pressmen" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Managua, January 13 TASS -- TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov reporting:

U.S. aggression against Nicaragua suffers a failure, primarily thanks to the courage of the people of the republic nd their mass participation in the effort to defend the revolution. The Nicaraguans are determined to give a fitting rebuff to the subversive underhand scheming of American imperialism, Daniel Ortega said in an interview to a group of Soviet pressmen accredited in Nicaragua.

The national economy held out against the economic blockade, although the damage caused to the republic by the undeclared war of the United States now stands at over 1.6 billion dollars.

The Nicaraguan Government rejects the political terms which Washington is thrusting on it, and continues its efforts to ensure the legitimate rights of the republic. It is determined to steer a peaceful course and work toward defusing the explosive situation in the region by political means. The road to peace in Central America lies through Washington's complete renunciation of aggression against the Nicaraguan people and through the normalization of bilateral relations. Only in this case will be the necessary conditions created for progress at the talks within the framework of the Contadora Group.

Daniel Ortega rejected efforts of the U.S. Administration to walk away from the responsibility for the explosive situation in the region and to present it as some consequences of "East-West confrontation". washington uses such false assertions to justify its criminal terrorist policy.

Daniel Ortega highly praised the disinterested assistance rendered by the Soviet Union to the Nicaraguan revolution. Multi-faceted cooperation with the U.S.S.R., he stressed, helps Nicaraguans defend and consolidate the power of the people. Nicaragua whole-heartedly supports the peaceful policy of the Soviet Union which enjoys broad backing on the international scene. The peace initiatives put forward by General Secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU Mikhail Gorbachev have paramount importance. The Soviet Union is making concrete steps toward arms reduction, stronger peace and the triumph of reason over raw power, Daniel Ortega emphasized.

ORTEGA MESSAGE TO CONTADORA COUNTRIES CITED

LD121144 Moscow TASS in English 1147 GMT 11 Jan 86

[Text] Managua, January 11 TASS -- Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Executive Commission of the National Leadership of the Sandinists National Liberation Front, president of Nicaragua, has sent a message to the presidents of the countries making up the Contadora Group on the occasion of the third anniversary of its founding. The document makes note of the effective contribution made by the Contadora countries to the cause of safeguarding the principles of self-determination, independence and sovereignty of nations, non-intervention in other nations' affairs and non-use of force in international relations. The message also commends their tireless efforts to resolve serious problems of Central America by means of a peaceful dialogue.

At the same time, Daniel Ortega writes, the results of the work done by the Contadora Group turned out to be limited through the fault of the U.S. Government which carries on with its policy of aggression against Nicaragua, funds the hired bands of counter-revolutionaries, stages incessant military maneuvers near the borders of the country, and makes efforts to destabilize the Nicaraguan economy.

To make further progress along the road of the talks, the message goes on to say, the United States should give up its aggressive actions, officially undertake not to stage them in the future and also to respect peace accords that can be reached within the framework of the Contadora Group or the support group.

The Nicaraguan president put forward a series of proposals devised to ensure a successful continuation of the negotiating process conducted by the Contadora Group. It is necessary, he noted, to secure the beginning of U.S.-Nicaraguan talks at the level of ministers of foreign affairs. These talks should lead to the solution of bilateral problems and the establishment of normal relations between the two countries based on equality and mutual respect.

Daniel Ortega urged the countries of the Contadora Group and the support group to assist the talks between Central American countries with a view to signing a joint treaty incorporating basic principles of international law, primarily, non-intervention in others' affairs and non-use of force, and also to assist the signing of bilateral peace agreements between the Central American countries and the establishment of mixed commissions and other mechanisms that would promote stronger trust and better understanding.

Daniel Ortega came out for organizing a meeting of presidents of the Central American countries next May in order to sign the joint treaty.

ECONOMIST COMMENTS ON LATIN AMERICAN DEBT

FL111406 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2110 GMT 10 Jan 86

[Text] Mexico City, 10 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Soviet economist Viktor Volskiy has asserted that the indebtedness problem in Latin America is already a pathological, serious, and unbearable one and that almost $80 million have been paid for debt services during the last 2 years.

In a document released by the Soviet Embassy in Mexico City, the specialist added that the economic crisis revealed a more serious and strained reality, the slavery caused by the indebtedness of Latin American countries. He said that while in 1960 these countries' foreign debt amounted to only about $5 million, now it surpasses $370 billion and that over 200 million of that is owed by Brazil and Mexico.

Volskiy asserted that in order to maintain Latin American countries' submissiveness, all forces of the capitalist world: The IMF, the Paris Club, the U.S. Banks Coordinating Committee, and others, have united and debtor countries that have gone to them have had new conditions imposed on them to obtain loans. The Soviet economy expert indicated that Latin America is forced to pay unprecedented interest rates and that the increase of interest rates by 1 percent, increases the service charges of the debt by $2 billion annually.

Finally, Volskiy pointed out that in depth reforms in the economic relations system of the entire world are needed and that a new international economic order is urgently needed.